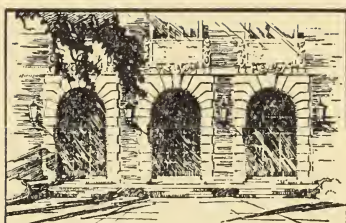



IDOLS *of* EGYPT



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IDOLS *of* EGYPT

Idols of Egypt

By

Will Griffith, Barbara Burr Hubbs, Virginia Caldwell
McAndrew, Richard L. Beyer, Josephine Crist
Thompson, Katharine Quick Griffith, and
Josephine and Scerial Thompson.

EDITED BY

WILL GRIFFITH

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To
The Youth of Southern Illinois
as an inspiration to the future
Idols of Egypt

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I.

The Great Commoner—
William Jennings Bryan

By Will Griffith

GIANTS grow from the soil. It seems there is something in the fresh loam, in the rocks and hills, in the trees and sky that begets broad thoughts. Something that causes deep roots in man.

In an ordinary frame house in Salem, Marion County, Illinois, on March 19, 1860, a son was born to Silas and Mariah Bryan, the fourth child of a family of nine. That boy was named William Jennings Bryan. The son of a staunch Democrat, it was a natural course for him to be a Democrat. The son of a devout man, it followed he, likewise, was extremely devout. Otherwise the pattern was different.

Judge Silas Bryan was of a stern cast, not a good mixer, more or less of a martinet in home and courtroom. Son William was just the opposite. He was a friend of all men, a good campaigner, a likeable "cuss," even if you happened to be a Republican.

William Jennings Bryan was a mixture of two strains of Americans. His father was born in West Virginia of parents who had emigrated from Virginia. His mother was born at Walnut Hill, a small village south of Salem, of New England stock. Thus, again, is demonstrated the mixture of Yankee and Southern blood so prevalent in Egypt.

Although Bryan never offered proof, he always claimed that the family name originally was O'Brien, claiming a straight descent from the O'Briens of Ireland. Actually he was an admixture of English, Welsh, and Irish.

From his father, William J. Bryan received his intense devotion in religion and politics, and from his mother, comradeship, discipline, and diligence.

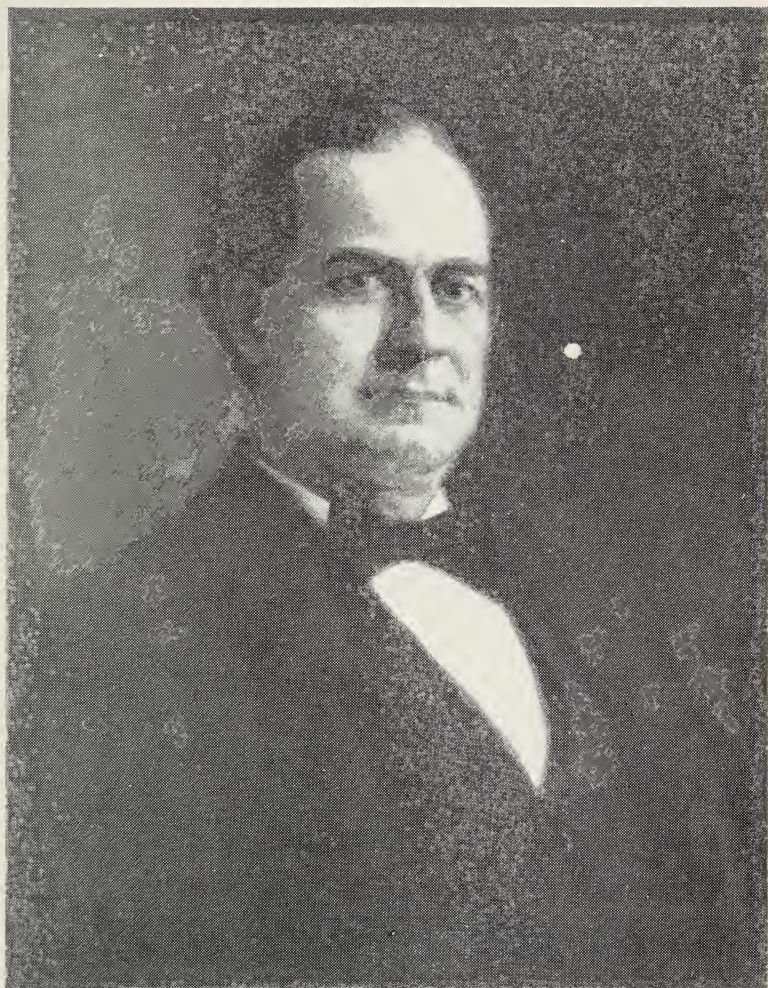
Egypt is a land of contrasts, a land of light and shadow. What other section of America could have molded two men, from similar surroundings, of equal opportunity, raised in religious atmospheres, into the proponents of

the opposites in belief—Robert Ingersoll the agnostic, and William Bryan the fundamentalist? It is to be regretted that they were not contemporaries. What a battle that would have been! What oratorical offensives would have been taken! What rhetoric would have resounded!

At Salem, the young Bryan passed through the stages of Willie, Billy, and Will. He hunted rabbits on the surrounding countryside, climbed fences, fished in the nearby creeks, cut his initials in his school desk, and comported himself as any young American boy. None of the citizens of Salem had any idea of his future greatness. Mayor Schwartz, of Salem, in an interview with the *United Press*, at the age of eighty-four, in 1944, recalled young Bryan as, "He was just a common ordinary fellow and he was a little windy."

Young Bryan's life was influenced largely by the women of his family. The Judge, with a circuit of five counties, was away from home for long periods. Bill's mother, his sister Fannie, and his cousin Mollie, were the emphatic factors in his early life. Cannot their influence be traced through his mature years?

Judge Silas Bryan was a devout man. While attending McKendree College he became ill, and in his suffering prayed to God, promising Him, that if permitted to survive and get his degree from college, to offer prayers three times daily the rest of his life. Silas Bryan lived, and got his degree. He kept his promise. Court was opened each day with prayer by the Judge. It is related that frequently during his judgeship he retired to his chambers for a prayerful communion with his God before rendering a decision. When twitted by Bob Ingersoll, then a Peoria lawyer, that quite a few of the Judge's decisions had been reversed by the Supreme Court, the Judge replied that the Supreme Court had been wrong, not God.



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WILLIAM JENNINGS BRYAN

Painted by Irving R. Wiles.



PHOTO BY UNDERWOOD AND UNDERWOOD.

RUTH BRYAN ROHDE

Will's father was a Baptist, his mother a Methodist. When still a lad, Will decided to join the Presbyterian Church. To the glory of the Bryan family the differences in the religious affiliations of the various members of the family interfered not one whit, either in their family relations, or their church duties.

William Jennings Bryan lived in Salem until he left for Jacksonville, where he entered Whipple Academy, and followed from it to Illinois College in the same city. While in his first year at Whipple Academy, Will wrote his father to ask for five dollars with which to buy a new pair of pants, stating that the ones he had were "frayed, and shiny and baggy at the knees" making him self-conscious and out of keeping with the better dressed citizens of Jacksonville. The Judge wrote in reply: "Down here in Salem, in Marion County, your old home, the people measure a man's ability not by the length of his trousers, but by the breadth and depth of his brains. Your mother, when you get home, will attend to your trousers for you."

In the summer following his first year at Jacksonville, Will was at home in Salem. That was 1876, the year of the presidential election that was long to be remembered by both the winners and the losers. The Midwest was seething with unrest. The farmers had just begun to feel their power. In a two-year period 1465 granges had been organized in Illinois. The agricultural interests were combining; they were sampling their power. Judge Silas and Mrs. Bryan went to Philadelphia to see the Centennial Exposition. Will, at home in Salem, read the political news and made a decision. He would attend the National Democratic Convention at St. Louis. Upon his arrival at the convention hall, Will could not gain an entrance. Frantically rushing from door to door, he sought a means of getting inside. Not for nothing was he possessed of that Irish smile. A police-

man pushed him through a window, where from that precarious perch, he heard the oratory of Daniel W. Voorhees, the "tall sycamore of the Wabash," "Blue Jeans" Williams, from the same Hoosier State, "Marse" Henry Watterson from Kentucky, and other leaders of the party. Samuel Tilden was nominated. It was Will's first presidential convention—but not his last one.

In 1880, Bryan took his first active part in the national game of politics. E. P. Garner, a merchant of Salem, was on the executive committee of Salem Township. He, along with young Bryan, organized the Hancock and English Club. This was Bryan's first political act. He was twenty years of age at the time. Although not yet a voter, Will was chairman of the committee on permanent organization.

A course at the Union College of Law, at Chicago, prepared Bryan for his chosen field of work. He was graduated from the school in 1883. While attending law school, he worked in the law office of Senator Lyman Trumbull, and lived in the Trumbull home. A sincere warm friendship developed between the older and the younger man. Undoubtedly some of the Trumbull influence can be seen in Bryan's life. One of the most touching orations made by Bryan was that delivered at the funeral of Senator Trumbull.

After completing his law course, Bryan returned to Jacksonville to open a law office. In a few years, business took him to Lincoln, Nebraska. He saw opportunity for a lawyer in the rising West, and moved to that town. Soon he began to flame before the West and the Central States as "the boy orator of the Platte." Although the Platte is a long way from Egypt, we contend there was something, and probably still is, in the soil of Egypt that begets oratory. Bryan, Ingersoll, Logan, Borah, Breese, to mention a few of the better known, trod Egyptian soil in their early years.

In Nebraska, Bryan started to build up a law practice, and at the same time broke into politics. It is interesting to note that among his earlier law cases was one in which Charles G. Dawes, later vice president of the United States, elected on the Republican ticket, won a judgment against Bryan as opposing counsel in the amount of \$1.27.

Bryan entered the writing field early in his career. In time, he became chief of the editorial staff of the *Omaha World-Herald*. Later, he reported major news events for news syndicates, and as special writer reported the Republican National Convention in 1896.

For many years, Bryan and his brother Charles published the *Commoner*, originally a weekly publication, of which brother Charles was the managing editor. The *Commoner* ceased publication April 20, 1923, having been for some time a monthly publication. Through the editorial columns of his paper, Bryan was able to bring many of his ideas into print. His editorials were not as interesting reading as were his speeches to listen to, because as one put it, "Bryan couldn't smile on paper."

The young man from Egypt made his first political speech in the spring of 1888 at Seward, Nebraska. Immediately, he was recognized as an orator, and his career was launched. In May 1888, he was a delegate to the Democratic State Convention at Omaha.

When merely thirty years old, William Bryan was nominated for Congress. Elected, he entered upon the national scene. He was re-elected two years later. Ambitious to become United States senator, he was a candidate for that office and defeated.

When the fateful year of 1896 came, William J. was a delegate to the Democratic National Convention at Chicago. There was not a member of that convention who even thought of him, if he ever had heard of Bryan, as a national candidate. Bryan had his plans. The

moment came. Bryan spoke. From those wide lips came the speech known as the "Cross of Gold" speech. He closed his speech with a peroration that said: "Thou shalt not press down upon the brow of labor this crown of thorns, thou shalt not crucify mankind upon a cross of gold."

The speech he had made at the Omaha convention, in 1888, made Bryan a state figure; the speech made eight years later at the Chicago convention made him a national figure.

In one of those rare instances, Bryan, as the result of his "Cross of Gold" speech, was nominated for the presidency by the convention, which broke loose from all control, and yielded to the enthusiasm engendered by the fresh young orator from Egypt, via the Platte. Thirty-six years had passed since Silas and Mariah Bryan had welcomed their new son into the world at Salem, Illinois. Thirty-six years only, for him to march up to the door of the White House.

Not since the Lincoln-Douglas campaign for the presidency in 1860, had the country known such an interesting campaign. On the Republican ticket was William McKinley, dignified, suave Ohioan, versed in the art of politics, creature of Boss Mark Hanna, supported by the monied interests of the nation. He was opposed by the youth (so to speak) from the West. A youth, who outside of his "Cross of Gold" speech was virtually unknown away from his own little bailiwick in Nebraska, but who, with the zeal and fire of a crusader, went about the country speaking to the masses, and moving them by the power of his oratory and the charm of his personality.

It is difficult for one who never heard William Jennings Bryan to realize his attraction merely from reading his speeches. It must be realized that Bryan wrote his speeches, not to be read, but composed them so that

they were "orchestrated for his extraordinary voice."

This was the year of the Gold Bug, a huge brass pin about four inches long, two inches wide, and one inch thick, which hung onto the lapel of a man's coat with the aid of two prongs. This was the year of parades, torchlight parades, mile-long parades, parades with floats, parades with bands. The nation echoed to the sound of tramping feet. Not the tramping feet of war, but the tread of thousands marching nightly in parades. There were the slogans of "16 to 1," "In God we trust, in Bryan we bust," "Free Silver," "Gold Standard." The radio, wonderful invention that it is, has taken away from the present generation the thrill, the glamor of the torchlight parade followed by the "speaking."

To appreciate the hypnotism of Bryan, one had to see him as well as hear him. One campaign biographer described him thusly:

"His shoulders are broad enough to excite the approval of a Norse Viking; his chest is as deep as that of a race horse. Mounted on his square shoulders is a square head. No beard, no moustache, has the freedom of his visage. Every trace is carefully mowed away with the light of each new day, and when the world meets the young statesman he's as smug and smooth as a pulpiteer. There is nothing soft, yielding, or effeminate about him; nothing of the willow. His eye is dark, his complexion swarthy, with the British, not the Spanish swarthinness; his nose an emphatic curve, his mouth well widened and firm, and the whole face founded on a jaw, the very seat of power, and as squarehewn and indomitable as if cut from the living rock He is well, even highly educated. He has dug through books and tunneled learning equal with any dusty, musty college professor of them all. More than books, he has studied men, and their lives have been his lessons. He has a memory like wax, and all

he has heard, or read, or seen, abides with him. He is not so profound as quick; and with an intellect rather military than philosophical, he makes weapons of all he knows, and every scrap of learning belonging to him is as prompt and ready hand to be either defensive or offensive, as his swift genius for combat may decide."

Came the Ides of November. The ballots were counted. The power of money was victorious. The professional had beaten the amateur. The East was successful over the young West. Bryan was defeated.

Back to Nebraska went William Jennings and his wife, Mary. After the necessary rest from the labors of the campaign, the Bryans set themselves to the herculean task of answering personally each of the sixty thousand letters received during the campaign. Sandwiching this chore into the day-to-day necessary work, the Bryans accomplished the task in eighteen months. Every letter was answered by them, personally.

Bryan was a glutton for work. He worked 10, 12, 14, and 16 hours daily. Newspaper correspondents accompanying him on the campaign wore out, but Bryan kept on working. He was a fast dictater. (Note the spelling of the word—there was nothing of the Hitler in Bryan.) No matter where the train stopped, if there were a group waiting for Bryan, he made a talk to them, even if no speech were scheduled. He was blessed with a combination of talent and strength.

Bryan was a colorful figure in the campaign. He looked and acted the part of the Great Commoner. A Georgian styled him, "A Saul come to lead the Israelites to battle."

At the Chicago Convention in 1896, a hotel clerk asked Bryan to pay in advance. His extremely plain garb, his unpretentious manner made no impression upon the hotel clerk. To Bryan, the incident was one about which to laugh.

Four years passed. It was time for another Democratic Convention. Bryan was again a delegate. Again Bryan was the orator, again he was nominated. Again he traveled from shore to shore speaking the Democratic doctrine of free silver and a low tariff. This time he was opposed again by William McKinley, who had a new running mate, Theodore Roosevelt, soon to become president upon the assassination of McKinley. There were the same colorful parades, the same cries of the "full dinner pail." This campaign, Rough Rider suits and hats were much in evidence. This campaign the name "Teddy" became popular for the first time in America.

The battle was between the same interests as in 1896. The inevitable result was the same. Bryan was defeated.

Back to Lincoln went the Bryans, there to lick their wounds.

Bryan could not remain idle, nor out of the public eye. He became a Chautauqua speaker. He toured the country each summer, speaking to tremendous gatherings at the many Chautauquas. He commanded a terrific fee for his speeches. He was worth the cost. He drew the crowds.

In 1904, the Democratic party did not nominate Bryan as its standard bearer, naming instead Judge Alton B. Parker, of New York. The Republican side of the wheel of fortune was up yet. Theodore Roosevelt was elected.

When the Democrats assembled in 1908 to select a standard bearer, the ubiquitous Bryan was present, and was named the candidate for the presidency. Thus for the third time, the boy born in Southern Illinois, became the candidate for the highest office in our land.

Again the old routine. The speeches, the traveling, the crowds, the applause, the long, long days. This time Bryan's opponent was William Howard Taft. Taft was victorious.

The American people are unique. We follow a leader, we fall for the theater, we worship at the feet of mountebanks, we vote for a radio voice, we are worked upon by experts who understand how to play upon our emotions. At the same time we are fickle.

In 1896, Bryan's total expense to obtain the nomination for the presidency was one hundred dollars, and the effort to deliver his "Cross of Gold" speech. Surely no one could criticize the amount of his expenditures. In that campaign, he was accused by the opposition of being an unsuccessful lawyer. Twelve years later, in Bryan's third campaign for the presidency, he was denounced because of his great wealth!

Three times a candidate, three times defeated. That ended Bryan as a candidate. He was always in a receptive mood, but the politicians felt that anyone defeated so many times was not a suitable candidate again. Bryan passed off the political stage for several years.

William and Mary enjoyed life. Financially able to do so, they could indulge in whatever fancy they desired. They traveled around the world. In every land Bryan was received with honor, was recognized as one of the leaders of the United States.

Perhaps one of the secrets of the appeal Bryan had on the citizenry was his humanness. He was no feudal baron, he was no superior clay, he remained just plain American William J. Bryan. On their trip around the world, Bryan hunted up the parents of Johnny Cole, at Oxfordshire, England, and got from that English home a plum pudding, which Bryan carried all the way back to Nebraska, to gratify the desire expressed to him by Johnny Cole, a street car conductor of Omaha, who had missed for several years the plum puddings his mother had made.

Upon the Bryans' return to "Fairview," their suburban

home in Nebraska, they presented each member of their church at Normal, Nebraska, with a pebble gathered from the Sea of Galilee.

Bryan first bought five acres of land for the sum of \$250 per acre, and later increased the acreage of his estate to 153. He stated that he had paid \$100 for scenery, \$100 for climate, and \$50 for soil.

Bryan was a farmer at heart, and enjoyed his home in the country. At Fairview he could pretend he was a farmer. Bryan liked to eat. His favorite food was chicken with "plenty of gravy." He ate much sweet corn, and drank quantities of milk.

Due to our system of government, Bryan's career entered a new phase every four years—at the time for another presidential election. At Baltimore in 1912, Bryan was the force that swung the convention for Woodrow Wilson, as opposed to Champ Clark. His stand in this convention was open to criticism at the time, but undoubtedly he hoped that by playing Wilson and Clark against each other long enough, William Jennings Bryan would emerge as the compromise candidate. Wilson showed a burst of strength, and finally won the nomination, and eventually the election.

Wilson desired to find a place in his administration for Bryan, and offered him the post of secretary of state. This place Bryan filled gracefully until the sinking of the *Lusitania*. Bryan could not agree with President Wilson in his course toward Germany. When Wilson sent a note to Germany without the approval of Bryan, the Great Commoner tendered his resignation to the President. Bryan quit as secretary of state rather than compromise his ideals.

A crusader all his mature life, he was greatest in defeat. He was not a successful candidate. One of the chief reasons for his failure to be elected president was his vision. He could see much farther than the man in

the street. He could see too far for the financial barons of the East. He always was ahead of his time. He advocated many reforms, only to watch them, and himself, defeated. But he lived to see some of them put into practice. Others have since been made the law of the land. Woman suffrage, prohibition, campaign contributions publicity, direct election of United States senators, income taxes, representation of labor in government, the return of the Philippines to their native owners, abolition of government by injunction, currency reform—he advocated them all. Today we have seen them all put into practice, and all but one remain in our national life.

In 1858, two Illinoisans were candidates for the United States senatorship, Stephen A. Douglas and Abraham Lincoln. Four thousand eighty-five more votes were cast for Republicans than for Democrats, but when the State General Assembly met to elect a senator, as was the procedure in those days, Lincoln could not obtain enough votes for his election. Judge Silas Bryan was one of those who opposed Lincoln, and who voted against him. If William had been alive and could have convinced the country of the merits of the direct election of senators, Lincoln would have been elected to the senate, and very likely never would have been president.

Upon William Jennings Bryan's nomination to the highest office in the land by the Democratic party in 1896, he returned to Salem, where his three children had been left in the care of his sister, Fannie. It was a great homecoming for this son of Egypt.

Judge Silas Bryan for many years entertained an ambition to own a country estate. He, in time, gratified that desire, purchasing a large tract of land about one mile north of the center of Salem. The family moved to the country when Will was six years of age. The home, at 408 South Broadway, in which he was born,

is today the Bryan Museum. In it are to be seen many souvenirs of a busy, successful life, lived most of the time in the public eye. Furniture, clothing, *objets d'art*, personal belongings, and a great number of letters of famous persons from all over the world, may be seen and enjoyed by the visitor. It is a fact that as time passes and Bryan recedes in the distance, he seems to grow, rather than diminish, in the eyes of the world, and more visitors call at the old Bryan home to see the relics and to pay their respects.

Immediately to the north of the Bryan Museum, is the Bryan-Bennett Library. The ground for the library was the gift of William Jennings Bryan, and the cost of the building was shared by him and Philo S. Bennett, an admirer and friend, of New Haven, Connecticut. The Bryan home was moved a few feet from its original site to make room for the library.

William Jennings Bryan was happily married. Mary Baird, of Perry, Pike County, Illinois, attended Illinois Woman's College at Jacksonville. At this time young Will was attending Illinois College in the same city. It was a case of boy meets girl. Mary Baird is said to have described Will Bryan to her girl friend as that "young men with a mouth big enough to whisper in his own ear."

One of the idiosyncrasies of fate entered into this marriage. Mary Baird had planned to attend another school, but at the last moment her plans were changed owing to a chain of circumstances beyond her control, and she went to the school at Jacksonville. Bryan had intended to go to a Missouri school, but at the last moment he, too, went to Jacksonville. Thus are our lives arranged for us.

The wedding ring Will placed on Mary's finger carried the inscription: "Won 1880, One 1884."

Mary Bryan was the constant companion of her husband. She helped him in all his labors. Mrs. Bryan

took a law course, and was admitted to the bar. This she did so that she could be in complete accord with her husband. When Bryan had taken his place in national affairs, Mary Bryan took up the study of the German language at a university so that someone in the family could read the German press for firsthand sentiment.

While a student at Illinois College, Bryan won as a prize, in an oratorical contest, a copy of the poems of William Cullen Bryant. When Will and Mary became engaged Will gave Mary this copy (precious to him) with his favorite underlined. Throughout his life he kept *To a Waterfowl* as his favorite poem, and frequently quoted the lines:

“He who, from zone to zone,
Guides through the boundless sky thy certain
flight,
In the long way that I must tread alone,
Will lead my steps aright.”

In addition to Bryant, the favorite writers of William Jennings Bryan were Emerson and Longfellow. He refused to read Nietzsche, Schopenhauer, and Ibsen. Bryan was a fundamentalist in everything. Never a highly intellectual man, he never has been called anything but a sincere one. Grace was said at every meal. Bryan never swore. After maturity, Bryan became one of the most popular men in each community in which he lived, although he never drank, smoked, nor chewed.

With Bryan's virtual retirement from politics after his resignation as secretary of state, he gave his great talents to the cause of religion. He was an ardent fundamentalist. Edgar Lee Masters, said of Bryan, “He is the Christian Statesman, out of a job.”

The climax of his life came at Dayton, Tennessee, where he opposed Clarence Darrow in the famous Scopes trial. Here he was a pitiful, yet withal, a valiant figure.

Worn by the strain of the hot tempestuous days in the blistering courtroom, saddened by the reactions of many citizens, he laid down a few days later to rest, and lapsed into eternal sleep.

Bryan was buried in Arlington Cemetery by virtue of his service as a colonel of volunteers in the Spanish-American War in 1898.

Mary and William Jennings Bryan had three children, Will, Jr., Ruth, and Grace. Will, Jr., died early in life. Grace is Mrs. Grace Bryan Hargreaves. Ruth became famous in her own right as Ruth Bryan Rhode, the first woman to represent the "Old South" in Congress, first woman to serve on the Congressional Foreign Affairs Committee, first woman to represent the United States at the Interparliamentary Union, London, 1930, and the first woman diplomat, being appointed Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to Denmark in 1933, by President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

At Bryan's death his estate inventoried \$1,111,948.50. Surely he could not be considered a failure. He attained great wealth, even greater influence, great renown. There is a similitude between Henry Clay and Bryan that is interesting to note. Both were great orators who were three times nominated for the presidency, three times defeated, and each served as secretary of state in the cabinet of a president.

William Jennings Bryan was a contemporary of Theodore Roosevelt and Woodrow Wilson, both essentially aristocrats. Bryan truly was a democrat—he understood the common people instinctively, and ever was their spokesman.

Bryan was a lover of peace, but never was he a pacifist.

As time marches on, William Jennings Bryan throws a larger and deeper shadow upon the American scene. As the years pass by, be we Democrat or Republican, fundamentalist or evolutionist, wet or dry, isolationist

or internationalist, we must say that William Jennings Bryan truly was great. Great in defeat, a harder task than to be great in victory.

II.

The Great Agnostic—

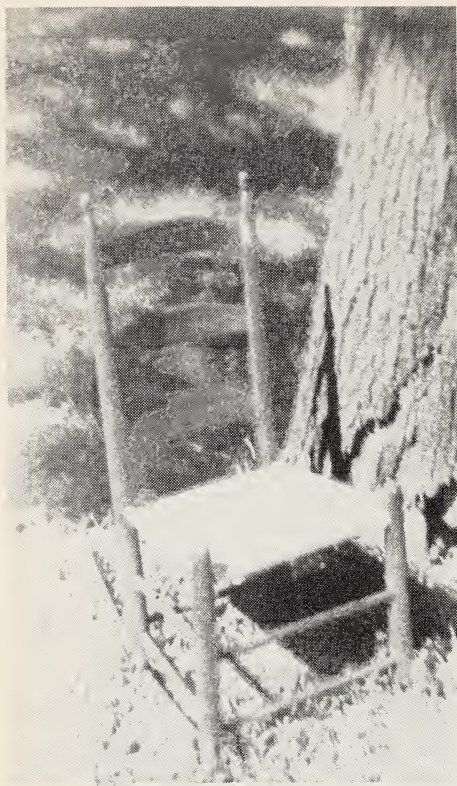
Robert G. Ingersoll

By Barbara Burr Hubbs



COURTESY EVA INGERSOLL WAKEFIELD, NEW YORK CITY.

COLONEL ROBERT G. INGERSOLL, Eleventh Illinois Cavalry, saw active service from the end of 1861 until his capture by General Nathan Bedford Forrest, whose friendship he enjoyed to the end of life. This is the earliest picture of Ingersoll known and approximates the face Egyptians knew.



Left—Chair, now the property of George Goodall, Marion, one of several pieces left by the Reverend John Ingersoll in payment of his board bill at Marion.

Below—This house, standing in the north part of Marion, was the one that first sheltered the Ingersoll family in that town. Mr. and Mrs. James Aikman built and lived in it, and boarded the Ingersolls. Photo courtesy Mrs. R. A. Parks, Marion.



IN the year of our Republic's centennial all the world echoed with the matchless phrases: "Like an armed warrior, like a pluméd knight, James G. Blaine marched down the halls of the American Congress and threw his shining lance full and fair against the brazen foreheads of the defamers of his country." That nominating speech at the Republican Convention of 1876 is held to have no parallel in political oratory. Egyptians remembered that same voice, with its notes of a silver bell, in the days when Bob Ingersoll quoted his favorite poets as he fished in the Ohio, or lay under the trees fringing the dusty square at Marion or Mount Vernon.

The spring of 1852, a preacher and his youngest son, affectionately called Robin, drove their horse and buggy over the winding roads of Southern Illinois. The father, an evangelist by nature, was seeking new fields of labor. The eighteen-year-old boy had a keen eye for the new sights, and an enormous pride in their "good fit out." He thought he might "go to teaching somewhere."

Years later, a "first-rate lawyer" by his own account, and "a very fine speaker" by his brother's, Robert left Southern Illinois for the more profitable law courts of Peoria. He would prove the first claim by winning ninety-nine per cent of his cases as one of the foremost lawyers of the nation. His lectures, his political speeches, his oratorical powers, unsurpassed for his generation, proved the second. His residence in Southern Illinois endeared Robert Green Ingersoll to a people who never forgot his genial comradeship and shining intellect, no matter what evil rumors clustered about his national reputation as the "Great Agnostic."

At Metropolis, on the banks of the Ohio, we catch our first glimpse of the Ingersolls in Southern Illinois. Robert wrote his sister and eldest brother back in Ohio, "Father does not know but he will settle here, the people are all

carried away with him as a preacher." The Reverend John Ingersoll had come to Illinois, in 1851, as pastor of the Congregational Church in Greenville, Bond County. No pastorate held him long. With this youngest son he set out on a leisurely drive down the State, preaching and visiting the scattered Presbyterian and Congregational families in a section overwhelmingly populated with Baptists and Methodists. The boy, whose life had been one move after another since his birth at Dresden, New York, in 1833, wrote a trifle wearily, "Father intends to see the whole world before many years."

From Metropolis, father and son drove across Kentucky into Tennessee. The "good fit out," in which both took such pride, was a horse for which the father paid eighty-five dollars and a buggy worth sixty-five dollars. By the middle of June, they were back in Greenville, where Robert entered the academy conducted, in the basement of his father's church, by one Socrates Smith.

The Reverend John Ingersoll debated his choice of a new field. Marion, Metropolis, Mount Vernon called. Mount Vernon called most romantically. When Robert Ingersoll was only two, his mother had died. That loss was felt all the more keenly in a family whose affections particularly were deep. So a successor was welcomed, and even accorded the name of "Mother." At Mount Vernon on August 3, 1852, John Ingersoll and Frances L. Willard were married.

Miss Willard was the teacher of the female seminary opened by Harvey T. Pace so his daughter could be educated at home. Pace, Mount Vernon's storekeeper, bought a wooded lot, built a neat schoolhouse, hired a teacher, and financed the school. Mrs. Ingersoll continued to teach there after her marriage, although her husband accepted the call of the Marion congregation.

The Marion Presbyterian Church was only seven

years old, but it had both church and adjoining manse on West Main Street. The Reverend Ingersoll took his widowed daughter, Mary Jane, to Marion to make their home. They found the manse not ready for them, and boarded in the home of Elder and Mrs. James Aikman. The Aikman house stands in Scottsboro, the north part of Marion, and is generally referred to nowadays as the "Ingersoll place."

At this house, Robert later joined the family. Mary Jane Ingersoll Frisby, Robert's sister, opened a school on the first floor of the church building, and charged two dollars a quarter year for teaching the young girls of Marion. Among them was her own daughter, lovingly known to her uncles as "Little Sis." Robert helped with the pupils.

Later, the resolve to "go to teaching" materialized. Father and son were off again, the former to attend Presbytery at Alton, the latter to apply for a teacher's certificate from the Jefferson County School Commissioner, Mount Vernon. This official, Doctor John C. Gray, was more immediately concerned with the current epidemic of ague. He had used a full three ounces of quinine that week. But he arranged for an oral examination, and the certificate was awarded.

The Mount Vernon Academy, a separate institution from the seminary where Frances Willard Ingersoll taught, stood in a grove at the southeast part of town. The township high school stands immediately west of the former grounds of the academy, now occupied by residences. The two-story building, erected for the academy by subscription, contained one large schoolroom on each floor. By the time young Ingersoll attained the principalship, the academy's financial affairs were tangled, and he taught on his own responsibility.

At the beginning of the new year (1853), the nineteen-year-old teacher reported on his progress: "I have

toward thirty scholars at 2.50 per quarter & each quarter consists of twelve weeks and I teach five days in each week. I am not making money very fast but can manage to get enough to eat." He weighed 153 pounds.

His books were the chief pleasure of his first winter away from home, in a place he first considered "a very pretty town . . . finely located," and later castigated as "a very miserable part of the world it is nothing but *mud mud* There is nothing around me that used to be." He was a homesick boy.

Now he knew from memory three-fourths of all Robert Burns ever wrote, and preferred the verse of *The Cotter's Saturday Night* describing the evening prayers. He read "in old Billy Shakespear most every night." He quoted Goldsmith's description of his own minister father from *The Deserted Village*, and he considered *Queen Mab* one of the finest compositions in the world. It was Poe's *The Raven* "that takes my eye." And he confided seven verses of his own to an elder brother at a safe distance, with the regretful postscript that there was no room for more. These verses described a dream visit from his own mother, dead seventeen years.

While Robert and Frances Ingersoll taught their schools at Mount Vernon, Mrs. Frisby prospered with her teaching at Marion. The family there occupied the manse, next door to the schoolroom. The minister kept a good horse and cow; his buggy was often on the road as he went to meetings in nearby towns. The occasions when he was asked to preach at Mount Vernon were happy family reunions. Sometimes he stopped over at Benton to present a sermon. Often he went to the newly established town of Carbondale, growing up along the new Illinois Central Railroad. Carbondale had no church buildings, but one of the town's promoters, Daniel H. Brush, lent his store house when a meeting

was arranged for a Sunday. The Reverend Ingersoll preached where the Hub Cafe is now.

With all this going and coming, bouts with the Devil following wet, cold rides, the preacher began to bend with the weight of his sixty years. In the spring of 1853, his serious illness caused both his wife and youngest son to close their schools, and attend his sickbed in Marion. Mrs. Ingersoll could not abandon her teaching without losing her entire term's salary of seventy dollars, but his father's need caused Robert to give up his school entirely. There was lamentation that he should lose the prospect of fifty pupils, in a town where he was increasingly popular and beloved. But he went to Marion to stay, with some thought of helping his sister with her pupils, now numbering twenty, and paying three dollars a quarter.

At Marion in the spring, an empty place in the family circle was filled with the coming of the brother two years older than Robert, Ebenezer Clark Ingersoll. These two, Clark and Robin they called each other, maintained a devotion that is written into the dedication of one volume of the *Ingersoll Lectures*: "To my brother, from whose lips I heard the first applause and with whose name I wish my own associated until both are forgotten." The funeral oration made years later by the younger over his brother's body is considered the purest gem of the Ingersoll genius.

Since the Ingersolls had felt Marion was their home, they talked of buying a place of their own, perhaps of having a stock farm. On July 7, Clark bought two forty-acre plots of land, one now a part of the city of Marion, about one mile west of the courthouse. The other forty acres lay some six miles northwest of the county seat. The two forties cost Clark one thousand dollars, and within the week he deeded both to his brother Robert for six hundred dollars. This "most beautiful

place" was a great satisfaction to the old preacher, although he worried how the payments were to be met.

When Mrs. Ingersoll completed her contract at Mount Vernon, and joined the family at Marion, Robert was free to return to teaching. The Ingersolls remembered the friends they had made in Metropolis. Letters were exchanged, and Doctor Angus McLain McBane, brother of the town's founder, suggested a plan for opening the Metropolis Academy, with Robert G. Ingersoll as principal, instructor, and janitor.

The schoolhouse stood in the outskirts of the village in that day, away from the main thoroughfare along the Ohio River. Now, the same site is the northwest corner of Fourth and Ferry Streets, and the building is occupied by a shoe repairman. Although some exterior changes have been made, the building is the same as that in which Ingersoll taught, and is known as the Old Cedar House because of its construction from red cedar logs.

We may be sure school held a new attraction that year, and the young teacher's own love of learning proved contagious to his scholars. He walked about the town, fished and swam in the river, talked and read his favorite poets. The year was not so successful for Metropolis merchants and farmers, and one morning classes were interrupted by a number of shamefaced fathers. Their errand was told bluntly, that there was no money to pay their modest subscriptions for their children's tuition. The teacher made a quick and generous solution to the problem by calling for the bills and receipting each one, "paid in full." He bowed out his patrons, with a request that they see that their children were more prompt in reaching school thereafter.

That delegation all too soon was followed by another, with a less pleasant conclusion. The head of Metropolis Academy followed schoolteachers' custom in "board-

ing 'round" at the homes of his scholars. He was a welcome guest at every dinner table, and established his reputation for telling a good story and giving a quick answer. One day, his host presented him to several guests, and Bob learned that a Baptist revival was in prospect, and the brethren were gathering from nearby towns. Acquaintance and conversation ripened, and the talk naturally turned to subjects theological. Different views of baptism were discussed by the ministers and elders, the teacher, not yet twenty, keeping silent. Finally, his opinion was desired, and after a moment's courteous hesitancy, he made answer: "My opinion of baptism, gentlemen? I would say baptism is a good thing, with soap."

It seems a harmless enough little joke today, just a wisecrack to be expected from the younger generation. But in 1853, such flippancy struck the assembly dumb. Ingersoll departed cheerfully for his evening's reading. There were plenty of words the next morning when classes were interrupted again, with a very different atmosphere from that of the last delegation. Teacher and pupils were dismissed without ceremony, and the schoolhouse locked by irate theologians. Robert Ingersoll is said to have walked home to Marion.

He stayed there only long enough to make arrangements for another school, this time in Tennessee. From Waverly, directly west of Nashville, he wrote in December: "I am doing very well in my school & I think be able to clear 150 dollars or so." The south with its dread institution, against which his father preached so vehemently, was not sympathetic to the budding humanitarian. He wrote with distress of the slave sales he witnessed, of the partings forced on mothers and children.

At the Marion home there was other distress that spring. Frances Ingersoll had spent a year suffering

from dropsy, which the good doctor Gray had treated unavailingly, though he made many trips from Mount Vernon. Mrs. Ingersoll went to her brother's home in Alton, further treatment was unsuccessful, and she died. Again the family circle was broken. The home, in which they had taken such pride, was sold, though scarcely at the "good opportunity" the father expected.

When school was out in Tennessee, Clark and Robert Ingersoll made new plans for their future. Their social instincts always had attracted them to the center of Marion's life, where they listened to the talk of lawyers and litigants around the Williamson County Courthouse. In those days, the building was a two-story brick one, forty feet square. Most of the legal lights of Egypt followed the judge on circuit, and the Ingersoll brothers had opportunity to hear the best. There seemed no reason why they could not do as well. Why not study law and join the ranks of the local celebrities? Immediately, they started to gratify the ambition with which they were fired. From their vantage point at the hitching rail, they surveyed the field, the lawyers' offices ranged around the square. None but the greatest and most famous would be their teacher!

Willis Allen was United States congressman at that time—the climax of a long career of office holding. His district comprised most of Southern Illinois. Who could be a better preceptor? Besides, the congressman had a lawyer son who had been boon companion to the Ingersolls during their time at Marion. True, Josh Allen was four years older than Bob Ingersoll, and in time rivalry added spice to the companionship. Tradition has it that young Ingersoll often was heard to mutter, "I'll outdo Josh Allen yet." He did.

The Allens were urbane Tennesseans, father and son known in turn as the very Chesterfield of the Southern Illinois Bar. Willis Allen (1806-1859) and William

Joshua Allen (1829-1901) were unwavering Democrats all their lives. They must have influenced the young Ingersolls' political ideas, though in truth there was no other party, or theory, in Southern Illinois during the "fifties." Robert Ingersoll dated his Republicanism from April 1861, and he raised a cavalry regiment at Peoria to defend the country he placed above party.

Arrangements for a legal education were made easily in 1854. Their ambition announced, the Ingersoll brothers were soon at work, copying briefs and making themselves generally useful in exchange for liberty with the Allen law books. From time to time, the preceptor would ask a few questions, assign some special case for closer study. Robert Ingersoll had leisure enough to enroll in the private institute for higher learning, kept by Mr. and Mrs. Isaac McCoy, when attendance warranted. McCoy was a Baptist preacher and a graduate of Hanover College, Indiana. These educational facilities were soon exhausted, and the young lawyers were ready for work.

After only one month's study, the Ingersoll brothers were admitted to the bar "ex gratia." Early in November, Clark reported they had received ten dollars in "spot cash" for professional services rendered in one day, that he had attended Circuit Court in an adjoining county where a few cases netted him twenty-five dollars, and had the promise of cases at the next term of court from which he anticipated fees of two hundred dollars.

On December 20, 1854, Clark and Robert Ingersoll went up to Mount Vernon. This time there was an air of celebration to the trip. They were to be launched formally in their profession.

In those days, the Illinois Supreme Court met regularly at Mount Vernon, according to the practice by which it also had sessions at Ottawa and Springfield.

The beautiful building, now occupied by the Appellate Court, was built to house these sessions and the traveling justices.

There the embryo lawyers produced the required certificates of good moral character, submitted to some good-natured and probably superficial questioning on their legal knowledge, and the oath was administered. The names of Ebenezer C. Ingersoll and Robert G. Ingersoll were entered formally upon the roll of attorneys admitted to the Bar of Illinois. Then the party adjourned to another bar, to celebrate the occasion.

Things went well. At Marion they had a new home; a very good house and barn on three acres in the town. Rarely were they there, for they followed the circuit with judge and State's attorney. The Reverend Ingersoll also was traveling a great deal, preaching in one place after another. The next year he moved to Belleville, where he lived "without charge."

Marion began to look rather small to the brother lawyers. In casting about for a new field, they decided upon Shawneetown, the busiest place on the Ohio River. Steamboat traffic was at its height, the rivers were the mainline transportation system of the West. Of all the county seats they frequented, none presented better opportunities. Besides, a former neighbor at Marion offered Robert regular employment at Shawneetown. Captain John M. Cunningham, of Marion, had been rewarded, for his services in the Mexican War and as a Democratic wheelhorse, by his appointment as Register of the Federal Land Office in Shawneetown. He needed a clerk.

Robert Ingersoll also arranged to act as clerk and junior partner for one of the leaders of the Shawneetown Bar, Norman L. Freeman. This was the man who served so many years as reporter of the Illinois Supreme Court, and prepared more than one hundred volumes of its cases.

So the brothers changed their home from Marion to the place the younger wrote of as, "your ancient, and *anti*-, as well as *post-deluvian* [sic] city." Shawneetown was filled with stimulating society. Court week especially was one round of intellectual pleasures; judge and counsel vieing with each other in oratory and story telling, both during and after sessions.

We only can surmise that the Ingersolls were guests at the marriage of Captain Cunningham's daughter in the fall of 1855. Mary Cunningham's wedding was in every sense a legal one, for Prosecuting Attorney John A. Logan was the bridegroom, Circuit Judge William K. Parrish performed the ceremony, and practically the entire Bar attended the bridal couple on their honeymoon, for the court moved that week from Shawneetown to Benton, where the Logans made their first home.

Another wedding celebration, this one at Marion, assuredly had Robert Ingersoll as one of the celebrants. We have his indictment to prove it. Prosecuting Attorney John A. Logan wrote out the papers for the Williamson County Circuit Court in the spring of 1856. The complaining witnesses were the bridegroom, George W. Binkley; the bride's sister and brother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Pitt Springs; their lawyer, George W. Goddard, and several other citizens of Marion, chiefly boarders at the Springs' home. The grand jury solemnly charged ten young men about town, including Robert Ingersoll, with "loud and unusual noises, tumultuous and offensive carriage, threatening and quarreling unlawfully" The old French custom of charivari, serenading a bridal couple with music performed upon wash boards, tin pots, and cow bells, was not received in this instance with the good nature that usually brought the bridegroom out to "treat" until silence was granted. Bail was set at one hundred dollars for each disturber of the peace, but there was never a prosecution.

Such solemn horseplay was a means of relieving the tedium of court. Out of it grew a degree of familiarity that extended through the years, regardless of the positions to which these country lawyers attained. From the same spirit as the charivari indictment, sprang the retort made by Robert Green Ingersoll, then a world famous orator, when he was told he had been accused of using one of Senator John A. Logan's speeches: "Stealing Jack Logan's brains? That would be only petty larceny at best."

The Shawneetown land office was closed May 2, 1856. Register Cunningham was out of his job, but his clerk was busy helping Clark Ingersoll get elected to the General Assembly. The campaign of 1856 was contested hotly. The Republican party made its first addresses to the people of Illinois, and elected its ticket of State officials. The new party made little progress in Gallatin and Saline Counties, however, where a Democrat was elected as their one representative in the General Assembly, just as a matter of course. E. C. Ingersoll took his seat when the session began January 5, 1857, and was active in the Democratic counsels throughout the forty-two day session. Later, he was the Republican congressman from the Peoria district for several terms.

We may be sure Robert Ingersoll exerted every effort to further his brother's campaign, and shelved all his own ambitions for the time. True, he did not have as much at stake in 1856, as he did twelve years later when he was a strong candidate for the office of governor, but ignored expediency to defend his own principles and his brother's congressional candidacy.

Another clerkship was ready for Robert Ingersoll at Shawneetown. John E. Hall was clerk of both county and circuit courts, and offered the experienced Ingersoll a place in his busy office. Hall first hauled salt by ox-team caravan between Equality and Vincennes. Then

he married a daughter of the salt works lessee, who built the mansion now known as the Old Slave House. This fifteen-year-old bride spent lonely hours in her log cabin with no companion other than a Negro slave girl, of the same age. Hall entered politics, and in 1856 the family was living in the three-story brick house on the Shawneetown river front, where General LaFayette was entertained in 1825.

Clerk Hall was drawn into one of those personal altercations that embittered political campaigns of the nineteenth century. The other party to this one was Colonel James C. Sloo, a prominent Shawneetown citizen, who had managed the land office for twenty years. When the *Marion Intelligencer*, of October 10, 1856, reached its Shawneetown subscribers, the town buzzed with gossip about a letter in the newspaper columns. The contribution was signed "Vindex," and gave Colonel Sloo a thorough castigation. Charge and counter-charge were argued wherever two citizens met.

On November 11, work was proceeding as usual in the county and circuit clerk's office. Clerk and deputy were busy at their desks when the latter glanced up and saw Robert C. Sloo, son of the Colonel, standing in the door and staring malevolently at Hall, whose desk faced the wall so his back met the visitor's gaze. Before Hall could rise or turn, young Sloo shot twice. Ingersoll only could catch the dying man as he fell, and carry word to the young widow, whose twin son and daughter were not one year old.

Young Sloo, who was twenty-four, and a former student at West Point, did not attempt to leave town. Deputy Ingersoll reported that the assassin had every appearance of being drunk, and young Sloo's actions bore out that opinion. He ran through the town to a friend's home, and attempted to hide in the chimney. There he was arrested, but trial was delayed until a special term

of court convened in the early summer of 1857. It developed into a celebrated case, the first on that circuit in which a plea of emotional insanity resulted in an acquittal on a murder charge. Counsel on both sides included the most distinguished names of the Illinois Bar. Robert Ingersoll was a witness for the prosecution.

Leonard Swett of Bloomington, Thomas G. C. Davis of St. Louis, and John W. Crockett of Henderson, Kentucky, were imported to defend young Sloo. The local attorneys, Norman L. Freeman and Andrew McCallen, also served the defense. John A. Logan closed the case for the prosecution, assisting his successor Thomas H. Smith, the State's attorney on the circuit. Josh Allen came from Springfield, where he had formed a partnership, and James S. Robinson, son of United States Senator John M. Robinson, came from Carmi to aid the prosecution.

The jury brought in a verdict of not guilty, responding to the defense's description of young Sloo's physical and mental condition. The next day, Judge William G. Bowman of the Gallatin County Court declared Sloo insane, and he became a patient of the State hospital at Jacksonville. A few months later, he was improved sufficiently to be discharged into his father's custody. When trained military men were in such demand in the Civil War, Robert Sloo obtained a commission. He disappeared in battle.

Robert Ingersoll, as attorney, could take no part in this unusual case, but his own practice was covering the Ohio River side of Illinois thoroughly. We hear of his being at Elizabethtown. He was at Raleigh (first county seat of Saline County) often enough to require an office there. By his own account, he weighed 180 pounds, and felt sound as a dollar. On all sides, men commented how well Bob Ingersoll's yarns took, and what a fine fellow he was. His name was mentioned as Hall's successor.

Robert Ingersoll's political ambition aimed higher than mere county office. A new court circuit was formed of the counties fringing the Ohio River, from Gallatin to Pulaski, with Saline added. On March 9, 1857, Robert Ingersoll was a candidate for State's attorney of this circuit. He was defeated by nearly a thousand votes, but his victorious opponent had had the advantage of having made the same campaign in the larger circuit just the year before. This political ambition to be a prosecutor was amply fulfilled ten years later when Governor Oglesby appointed Robert G. Ingersoll, of Peoria, to be attorney general. The Constitution of 1848 failed to provide such an official, and Illinois had no attorney general until the General Assembly of 1867 made provision for one. Ingersoll was appointed, served until 1869, but was not a candidate for election. That ended his career in public office.

Law and land were involved inevitably in the Ingersoll practice, and in the fall of 1857 he took a little flyer of his own. The year before, he had bought three acres in Marion, land immediately west of the present Logan Public School grounds, once the homestead of Captain Cunningham, and the girlhood home of Mrs. John A. Logan. As a small speculation, Ingersoll had this land platted into fifteen town lots, still named Ingersoll's Addition to the Town of Marion. Several lots were sold, one of them to his former schoolmaster, Isaac McCoy; then the remainder to his brother Clark.

Another venture marked his days in Southern Illinois, when he made the speech that has been called his first public anti-theological address. It was at a Sunday School picnic, and on the Fourth of July. The speaker who was scheduled did not appear, and the committee chanced on Ingersoll as a substitute. It was announced he would speak on the patriots and heroes of the Revolution, but he confined himself to defending the memory of Thomas

Paine. Against their prejudices, the crowd was moved to laughter and to tears, and the promise of Ingersoll the orator showed for the first time.

Horizons broadened with his powers. Though he called himself lazy, careless, and fat, his legal ability already was notable. The tall and handsome lawyer, who would win ninety-nine per cent of his cases, was ready for a larger field. Peoria was the boom town of Illinois, the river, railroads, and canals combining to make it a natural center of commerce. There, Robert Ingersoll would meet with success that would lead him to still larger fields. There, he would marry the woman who would enable him to find in his home the temple he would not find in church. There, his beloved children would be born, children he would regard with the same devotion the Reverend John Ingersoll had had for his youngest son, his "Benjamin."

The firm of E. C. and R. G. Ingersoll packed its law books and papers. On a farewell survey of Shawneetown, Judge Bowman asked if his friend would not miss the old courthouse in the new environment. The answer was one last quip: "... only a square box with a horse hitched at each side, and a pimple on top!"

Robert Ingersoll never returned to Egypt, except for such occasions as the mass meeting in Belleville, the largest audience in the history of that city, during the Republican national campaign of 1876. By coincidence, the last letter he ever wrote was addressed to the editor of the Chester newspaper.

It is no coincidence that his last written words, dated the day before his death in 1899, reflected some of the sentiment he had learned from his years in Southern Illinois. He wrote of the conviction of his life—freedom and right.



PHOTO COURTESY VIRGINIA CALDWELL McANDREW.

MRS. JOHN A. LOGAN



House in Shawneetown where the Logans were married.

Honeymoon home of the Logans, Benton.



III.

A Soldier's Wife—
Mrs. John A. Logan

By Virginia Caldwell McAndrew

CAPTAIN, when this affair is over and we get back to the States, I'm coming over to Marion and meet your daughter and marry her."

"All right, my boy, that will suit me."

The scene was amid the sage brush and sand of the southwestern deserts. The occasion, the Mexican War. In a volunteer regiment from Southern Illinois there were Captain John Cunningham from Marion and Lieutenant John A. Logan from Murphysboro. These were the two men who spoke about the captain's daughter, Mary.

On long marches across the barren wastes, at night around the campfires, Captain Cunningham frequently spoke of his family back in Illinois, and particularly of his pretty daughter, Mary.

Mary Simmerson Cunningham was born in Boone County, Missouri, August 15, 1838. Her father moved his family to Marion, Illinois, when she was just one year old. Some years later, Captain Cunningham was appointed Registrar of the Land Office at old Shawneetown, Illinois, and moved there with his family. Mary was sent across the Ohio River into Kentucky to attend St. Vincent's Academy, near Morganfield.

After Mary had finished her schooling, she came back to Shawneetown where, one day, the former Lieutenant Logan walked into the Registrar's office and stated: "Captain Cunningham, I've come to meet your daughter whom I am going to marry!"

Laughter mingled with the greetings. Young Logan, the new State's attorney on the circuit, was taken home to meet his friend's family. On November 27, 1855, Mary Cunningham became Mrs. John Logan, a bride at seventeen.

In her later years when she resided in Washington, the story of her father's and husband's jest was one

of the stories Mrs. Logan delighted to tell. A truer love match never was made. Although Mrs. Logan survived her husband thirty-seven years, she always was faithful to his memory, and in the intimacy of her family, and with close friends, ever referred to him as "Darling." In Mrs. Logan's own words: "Darling and I were married in Shawneetown and started out on our honeymoon with a horse and carriage, stopping the first night at Equality."

From there they traveled westward over the rough road that State Highway 13 now matches. In their early married life, the Logans lived in Benton, Murphysboro, Carbondale, Marion, and other Southern Illinois towns. Of course, Mrs. Logan was sentimental about Benton throughout her life. It had been their honeymoon town. Their daughter, Mary, affectionately called "Dollie," was born in Benton.

Never did a statesman have a greater helpmate than did General Logan. Noted for her beauty and personal charm, she aided and assisted her husband in all his political campaigns and, with her unerring tact and diplomacy, smoothed over many rough places. A friend of my father once said of her: "She is such an attractive woman and such an asset to the party, it is as little as one can do to vote for her husband." Even during the Civil War she was near to him, serving as a nurse in the hospitals, caring for the wounded soldiers.

Mrs. Logan proudly called herself "a soldier's wife," but she was more than that. She was the daughter of a soldier and the mother of a soldier. Her father was in the army during the Black Hawk and Mexican Wars; her husband during the Mexican and Civil Wars; and her son during the Spanish-American War.

Married at Shawneetown by Judge W. K. Parrish, John and Mary Logan drove in a buggy to Benton, accompanied on the journey by almost the entire bar, as the

court was moving to Benton at the same time. Mrs. Logan's description of their stop the first night at the little hotel in Equality, and the efforts made by their gracious host and his wife to celebrate the wedding event, was one of her reminiscences every listener enjoyed. At Benton, Mary Logan learned to manage a home, an especially difficult task in those days, with the great amount of visiting indulged in by all persons and the social demands made upon the wife of a lawyer on the circuit. Of medium stature, her expressive round face lighted with her sharp black eyes and her head crowned with a riot of black hair, Mrs. Logan made a charming appearance.

The young Mrs. Logan enjoyed her life as the wife of the rising young lawyer in Egypt. When court was held in Murphysboro, she accompanied her husband to that city where his family lived. In other towns of the circuit the Logans had many friends.

Things were different in those days from today. When it was necessary to file any legal paper, John A. Logan had to write out by hand all the stereotyped legal phrases that, now, a lawyer has ready in printed forms. The young wife of the Egyptian lawyer soon found a way to help her husband by writing a quantity of these forms in advance, leaving blank the places where names and dates were to be filled in. For many years, Mrs. Logan did considerable of her husband's legal research, thus saving him many tedious hours of work and, at the same time, sharing in his career.

Their early married years were filled with much excitement and adventure. John A. Logan was elected to Congress in 1858, and was there when the Civil War broke out. There were many Southern sympathizers in Egypt at that time, and when it was learned Logan was coming home to Marion, his fellow townsmen awaited his arrival anxiously to find out how he stood on the

question of the day. Feeling ran high in Williamson County, with ardent supporters of both the Northern and Southern sides. Mrs. Logan felt her husband must be apprised of the intense heat of the controversy and the dangers sure to follow if matters were not handled carefully. She, herself, wrote:

“Early in the morning I drove with a horse and carriage the twenty miles from Marion where we were living at that time to Carbondale to meet the train on which my husband was to arrive from Washington. The failure of train connections at Odin, Illinois, prevented his arrival as scheduled. I knew he would be expected at Marion and I realized I must return and tell the people why he would not be there. With a fresh horse I made the drive back to Marion. The people were disappointed, but I told them he *would come*. That night I again made the long trip alone and he came at two o’clock in the morning. We drove to Marion that same night.”

The following afternoon John A. Logan delivered his thrilling speech on the square in Marion, and started recruiting his regiment of volunteers, the Thirty-first Illinois Infantry, to fight for the Union.

Mrs. Logan divided her time during the Civil War between hospitals, where she nursed the sick and wounded soldiers, and Southern Illinois, where she superintended the making and sending of bandages and other supplies to the front. She also comforted and helped the families of the men fighting on the battlefields. No woman ever was more generous with her time and sympathy. When John A. Logan, himself, was wounded seriously, at Fort Donelson, she surmounted great difficulties to reach his side to nurse him back to health.

About five hundred of Logan’s men, while in Cairo, were sick with measles. In a hotel being used as a hospital, the men were lying on the floors with only their knapsacks for pillows, and with few covers. Mrs. Logan

hurried to Marion and Carbondale. From many homes she collected bedding and supplies with which to make the men comfortable. So varied were the colorings of the comforts and blankets that the place became famous as the "Striped Hospital." Many men had died before, but few were lost thereafter.

After the Civil War, John A. Logan again was elected to Congress, and later to the United States Senate. For many years the Logans had lived in the same boarding house in Washington. Upon General Logan's nomination for the vice-presidency, they felt it time to purchase a home of their own more befitting their station in life. They purchased an old house at Thirteenth and Clifton Streets, opposite today's Central High School. To this home they gave the name Calumet Place. For many years Mrs. Logan presided over this handsome home with dignity and charm. It was a large brick house situated on a high point overlooking the city of Washington, providing a magnificent view of the dome of the Capitol, the Washington Monument, and the Potomac River. This was their home at the time of the General's death in 1886.

When William Jennings Bryan, another native of Egypt, became Secretary of State under President Woodrow Wilson, he leased Calumet Place from Mrs. Logan. She and her daughter, Mrs. Mary Logan Tucker, moved next door to Eagle Lodge (General Logan was known as the "Black Eagle"), and lived there a few years. In her later years, Mrs. Logan returned to Calumet Place and passed her last years in the surroundings she loved.

To the visitor, Calumet Place was more like a museum, filled as it was with the many souvenirs of the General, and the beautiful articles collected by Mrs. Logan on her trips abroad.

Mrs. Logan always particularly was proud of the observance of Memorial Day, and of the fact that General

Logan's famous General Orders Number 11 to the Grand Army of the Republic had given it official recognition. Mrs. Logan, herself, furnished the immediate inspiration of this beautiful holiday. In Mrs. Logan's own words:

"The late Colonel Charles L. Wilson, editor of the *Chicago Journal* of that day, invited a party consisting of his niece Miss Anne Wilson (later Mrs. Horatio May), Miss Farrar, his fiancée (all now dead), General Logan, and myself, to visit the battlefields around Richmond in March, 1868. The importance of some measures then pending in Congress prevented General Logan, at the last moment, from going, but he insisted upon my going with these friends. We made a tour of every battlefield, fortification, temporary barricade, and cemetery around the erstwhile Confederate Capital, driving about in old tumbledown vehicles, drawn by lean, jaded horses, driven by thinly clad, poorly-fed men, who had survived the long siege of Richmond. We saw the colored men, women, and children digging out the lead and iron which had been shot into fortifications, almost the only support of these wretched people. Visiting cemeteries and churchyards, we were deeply touched by the withered wreaths and tiny flags that marked the graves of the Confederate dead. In the bleak March wind and light falling snow, the devastation seemed most oppressive.

"Returning together to the old Willard Hotel, where we then lived, sitting in our parlor after dinner, we recounted to General Logan the incidents of the trip, and how deeply touched we were by the devastation and ravages of war. In the churchyard around an historic church at Petersburg, every foot of the ground seemed occupied by the graves of the Confederate dead. Upon them lay wreaths of once beautiful flowers, now crumbling, which had been placed there by loving hands. Little faded Confederate flags marked each grave, mute evidence of the devotion of the Southern people to their

loved and lost. General Logan was much impressed by our description, saying, 'The Greeks and Romans in the day of their glory, were wont to honor their dead by chaplets of laurel and flowers, as well as in bronze and stone' and that as Commander-in-chief of the Grand Army of the Republic and member of Congress from Illinois, which he then was, he would issue an order establishing Memorial Day, then called 'Decoration Day.' He declared at the same time that he believed that he could secure the adoption of a joint resolution making it a national holiday and national ceremony. He then took up a pencil and piece of paper and wrote the matchless order Number 11, and remarked he would submit it to his staff of the Grand Army of the Republic. He read what he had written to Colonel Wilson, who expressed his appreciation of the order and predicted it would be received with great enthusiasm all over the country.

"After much discussion it was thought that May 30 would be the time when flowers would be in most profusion all over the country and that date was selected for Memorial Day."

After General Logan's death, Mrs. Logan was prominently identified with editorial work and writing. She edited the *Home Magazine* for several years, and wrote for a long time for the Hearst syndicate. The author of several books, her best known works are *Reminiscences of a Soldier's Wife* and *Thirty Years in Washington*.

Mrs. Logan traveled extensively in Europe, where she was received in the highest circles. On the wall in the famous Calumet Place was a photograph of Mrs. Logan wearing a magnificent court dress. When I asked her about it she replied in a matter of fact way: "Oh, the gown I wore at the coronation of the Kaiser, my dear."

Mrs. Logan visited Rome, Italy, to inspect Franklin Simmons' statue of her distinguished husband, which

later was erected in Logan Circle, Washington, D. C. St. Gaudens' equestrian bronze of the General in Grant Park, Chicago, is a beautiful piece of work.

For a half century Mrs. Logan lived in Washington, including thirty-seven years after the General's death, and was a leading figure in the social and political life there. Many persons sought her out for advice, or discussion of political and national affairs because of her keen brain, and her great interest in many matters. At an early age, her hair had turned snow white, which, with her flashing black eyes made her a handsome woman. Because of her great dignity and poise, she presented a commanding appearance. Her heart remained always in Southern Illinois, and the friends and thrilling events of her girlhood and early married life were cherished memories.

As a young schoolgirl, I had the rare privilege of visiting Mrs. Logan and her daughter, Mrs. Tucker, in historic Calumet Place.

Although well along in years, her wit remained as sparkling, her repartee as quick and sharp as it was in the early days when she matched wits with the Illinois politicians at Springfield. Her keen interest in everything and her ready laughter belied the fact that she was an octogenarian. In spite of her great friendliness, no intimacies ever were attempted. Everyone looked up to her and treated her with great homage and respect.

Mrs. Logan was the president and moving spirit of the Dames of the Loyal Legion, an auxiliary to the Loyal Legion, an organization composed of officers who had served in the Union forces in the Civil War.

On Lincoln's birthday, February 12, for many years the Dames of the Loyal Legion had an annual breakfast, the proceeds from which were used for charitable purposes. It usually was held at the Willard Hotel in Wash-

ington, D. C. Among the distinguished guests attending the breakfast on February 12, 1921, were: General Nelson A. Miles; Senator William B. McKinley of Illinois; Honorable Joseph G. Cannon of Illinois; Honorable Richard Yates of Illinois; and U. S. Grant, Jr. It was in regard to this Lincoln Day breakfast that Mrs. Logan wrote the following letter to my mother and father:

Eagle Lodge 223, 13th St., N. W.
Washington, D. C.

Feb. 9, 1921

My Dear Judge and Mrs. Caldwell:

Your greatly valued letter and its enclosure has just been received and I hasten to return the thanks of Mrs. Tucker and myself for your generous hospitality. We are very proud to have you both with us on what we hope will be a most enjoyable occasion. We do not anticipate any disappointment in any of the speakers as they are each in their particular line representative men and women who have done something in the world for its betterment, following the example of that great prototype of Americanism, Abraham Lincoln.

Do you know had my dear husband lived, we to-day would be celebrating his ninety-fifth Birthday Anniversary. He too lived for a great purpose.

When things have assumed their accustomed tenor we hope to see much of you. Be assured we will let nothing pass that is worth while without advising you.

Mrs. Tucker joins me in cordial thanks and sincere regards.

Cordially,

Mrs. John A. Logan

Mrs. Logan always signed her name "Mrs. John A. Logan." It was with great pride and love for her husband that she so wrote her name. She died February

22, 1923, in her eighty-seventh year, and was buried beside her "darling" in Soldiers Home Cemetery, Washington, D. C.

Memory furnishes an excellent picture of Mrs. Logan in her later years in Washington. Pale lavender ostrich plumes nodding over a bonnet of gray; black eyes flashing below a crown of white hair; a smiling mobile face surrounding the eyes, inviting goodwill from one and all.

This soldier's wife from Egypt was capable of holding her own with the best and sharpest wits of Washington, but her repartee, although many times pointed and sharp, never was intended to hurt.

Mrs. Logan seldom was seen without a large brooch at her throat, which was a cameo of John A. Logan in his later years. She loved people in a warm-hearted natural way. Young and old loved her. She always was gracious, kind, and thoughtful of everyone. A "soldier's wife," she was Egypt's most distinguished woman.

IV.

Senator at Large—

William E. Borah

By Will Griffith

FOR three decades, the mere whisper of a page-boy, "Borah is speaking," was sufficient to bring the hearer on the double to his seat in the United States Senate. Most senatorial speeches are made to empty seats. When Borah spoke the seats were filled. Every senator in Washington, physically able to attend, was in his place. The visitors' galleries were packed, the press box crowded.

Politicians grow on every bush. Statesmen are as rare as the bloom of the century plant.

Borah was a statesman—never a politician. When Borah spoke the Senate listened. Likewise the White House; Number Ten Downing Street, London; the Wilhelmstrasse, Berlin; the Kremlin, Moscow; the Imperial Palace, Tokyo. Besides these, and much more important, the common people of the United States listened. Politicians are heard by comparatively few citizens. When a statesman speaks, the people listen.

Politicians seem to flourish in the busy marts of industry. Statesmen usually come from the soil.

As Willie Borah trudged along the country road to Tom's Prairie School, as he straddled the furrows while plowing his father's field, as he went about the duties of a boy on a pioneer farm in Egypt, he absorbed a love of country, had injected into him an appreciation of the liberty of America, and an understanding of the common people. These were the foundation stones on which he built his great career.

Born June 29, 1865, on his father's modest farm about six miles northeast of Fairfield in Wayne County, Illinois, William Edgar Borah was a descendant of the Borah who came to this country in 1760. Of Bohemian-German stock, the sturdy Borahs came to America to seek the freedom and opportunities not findable elsewhere on this globe. A Borah fought in the Revolution-

ary War. From Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, the family in due time moved westward to Butler County, Kentucky. There a settlement sprang up to be known as Borah, a postoffice bearing the same name to remain until 1913.

From Kentucky, William E. Borah's grandfather, along with three of his brothers, crossed the Ohio River in 1820 and settled in Wayne County, Illinois. Two months after the surrender of Lee at Appomattox, in the shadow cast by the assassination of Abraham Lincoln, William E. Borah, the son of William Nathan Borah, was born.

William Nathan Borah was a stern, upstanding man. The Senator owed much of his rigid character to his father. His mother, Elizabeth West, was of Irish stock. From her, he inherited his native wit, his charming smile, his moodiness.

As a boy in Wayne County, he heard the firsthand stories of the veterans of the Civil War, and listened to the arguments of the Reconstruction Era. He felt the growing pains of the new Republican party. The young Borah read the family library—The Bible, *Pilgrim's Progress*, *Autobiography of Franklin*, *Biography of George Washington*, and a few of Scott's novels. The newspaper he read frequently was the *Chicago Inter-Ocean*. The works of Robert G. Ingersoll, another son of Egypt, interested young Willie. It was not the philosophies of Ingersoll that appealed to the young Borah, but the style of expression.

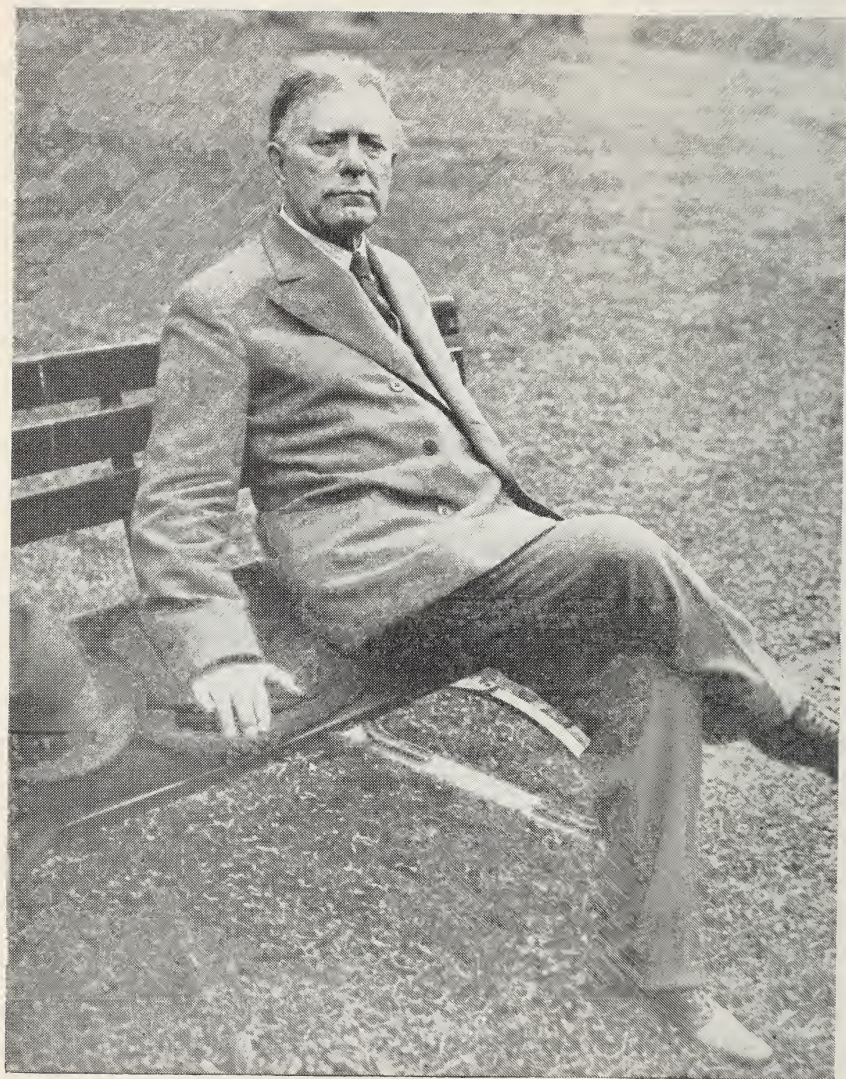
When young Willie, at the age of sixteen, had completed the grade school course at Tom's Prairie school, his father sent him to the Academy at Enfield, Illinois. One year was sufficient for both Willie and the school. A stern principal did not approve of hopping rides on trains to the neighboring town of Carmi, and, as a result, Willie stopped his formal education for several years.

A husky lad, Willie led the usual life of the country



ACME PHOTO.

Senator William E. Borah on his favorite horse.



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Senator William E. Borah in Rock Creek
Park, Washington, D. C.

boy. Fights with other boys, sometimes winning and sometimes losing; long tramps in the woods; daily chores and Sunday "meeting"; county fairs in the summer time where his chief fascination was the horse racing. Early in life his love of horses was manifested.

While in the academy he had been poor in mathematics, but good in Latin. History and literature were his favorite subjects. Whenever he had a chance to "speak a piece" he was happy. Once a Republican rally was held at Enfield. The speakers billed to orate for the assembled crowd failed to appear. After some delay, the quandary of the promoters of the rally was solved when young Borah was sighted in the crowd. The youth was asked to fill in, and did. He began: "Chairman, jubilant Republicans, and disgruntled Democrats." This was the first public speech of Bill Borah. Praise God it was not his last.

As the lad grew to young manhood, the pioneer spirit began to work. His eyes turned toward the West. A sister, Mrs. A. M. Lasley, living in Lyons, Kansas, invited him to come there. He finished his high school work at Lyons, taught in a country school, read and studied law. In 1885, he entered the University of Kansas as a sub-freshman. The following year, his freshman work was interrupted, as he left the university in the spring of 1887 because of a threat of tuberculosis. Thus ended William E. Borah's formal education.

In his class at the University of Kansas were several young men who later wrote their names high on the scroll of our country. Among them were Herbert Hadley, a governor of Missouri; William Allen White, the famous editor of Emporia, Kansas; General Fred Funston; and Vernon Kellogg, director of the National Research Council.

Borah became a member of the Beta fraternity. As a "frat" member he was a washout. He took life too

seriously. Even in those early days his inflexible honesty shone forth. A group of the fraternity stole four turkeys from a farmer and served them to the members at the "frat" house. Bill protested. When dunned for the turkeys, Bill found a "five spot" and paid for them, even though it turned out to be a practical joke. His brother fraternity members had to listen to quite a lecture from Bill on the principles of honesty.

Upon leaving college, Bill entered the law office of his brother-in-law, read a little law, and soon qualified for admission to the bar, a relatively easy accomplishment in those early days of the newer states. The firm became Lasley and Borah.

In 1890, Borah again heard the siren voice of the West, and set forth upon his great adventure. Headed for Seattle, he soon found he could not make it, due to his rapidly shrinking funds. A professional gambler Bill met on the train referred him to Boise, Idaho, as a good town. The young lawyer took the suggestion. Upon arrival, his money on hand inventoried \$15.75, and he had no further resources. Unable to effect a partnership with any of the twenty lawyers practicing in that frontier town of 2311 population, Borah opened up his office alone, and started upon his career as a lawyer.

By the time Borah was elected to the Senate of the United States, seventeen years later, in 1907, he had an annual income of \$30,000 from his law practice. Not bad for the farm boy from far away Egypt, Illinois!

For thirty-three years Bill Borah served in the United States Senate. Most of those years, while technically known as "the Senator from Idaho," he was, in reality, "Senator at Large." Upon becoming a member of the United States Senate he ceased to practice law. His only clients were the people of the United States. Hunt the records through. Search and re-search. Find, if you

can, instances when Borah was guilty of feeding at the "pork barrel." There are none. Borah's interests were not limited by the boundaries of the State he represented. He had the long look, the national view, the statesman-like vision.

To Borah the Constitution was a thing of reverence. It was the bulwark of our liberty. Many times, when attacks were made upon our Constitution, upon the American way as handed down from our founding fathers, Borah's voice, at first, was the lone one lifted in warning. Soon others would follow and the threats to our liberty again would be defeated.

Borah listened to the voice of the people as it rolled down the slopes of the Rockies, picked up momentum in the Mississippi valley, and leaped over the Appalachians. To him it was the voice of his country.

Borah was unusual in his philosophy of life. Not a church goer, he nevertheless was a religious man. Once when a reporter asked him if he believed there was a God, the inimitable Borah replied explosively, "Of course there is a God. This would be truly a hell of a place to live if there were no God."

A fairly heavy body, about five feet nine or ten inches in height, topped by a leonine head crowned with shaggy dark hair, made Borah a standout in any company. William Allen White described him in his college days as "a thick necked starry eyed boy with an Irish twitch when he smiled with his loose-lipped mouth, a twitch that looked as though he was scaring away a fly on his nose and lower jaw."

His resonant voice made him a successful pleader both before a jury and an audience.

He either was an advocate or a dissenter. A keen analyst of the plans of others, he was at his best fighting for them or against them.

Soon after Senator Borah arrived in Washington, the

Capital became aware of the other Borah, his wife. In time they became designated as "Big Borah" and "Little Borah." Mrs. Borah had been Mamie McConnell, daughter of a governor of Idaho. Her charming personality, her poise, and her devotion to her husband soon were talked about in the national capital. Very little did the social set see of Bill Borah. He preferred the quiet of his home, of his study, of his library, or the joy of the outdoors, astride his horse, Jester.

Borah was a man of the people, not of the peers. Position, wealth, power, meant nothing to him.

One of the greatest fights of Borah's career was the one he waged against the League of Nations proposal. Along with Hiram Johnson of California, George Norris of Nebraska, and Jim Reed of Missouri, Borah led the shock troops that made the entering wedge in the enemy's lines, and opened the way to the final defeat of the League.

He stands unique as the one senator who refused an invitation to lunch at the White House. When the bitter fight was in progress between President Wilson and "that little band of wilful men" who were fighting Wilson's League of Nations idea, the President wrote to Borah inviting him to dine at the White House, along with several other senators, and discuss the proposed league. The Borah reply was a classic. After expressing his appreciation of the invitation, he stated that if he attended the dinner, in accordance with established custom, his lips would be sealed on any items of a confidential nature; that he could not in honor divulge them. He wrote that it would not be fair to the President to accept his confidential information and not respect the confidence, nor could he accept information he would not be free to pass on to his associates, or to use in public debate. Therefore he would have to decline the invitation. An unheard of thing—a typical Borah action.

In the middle of his speech against the League of Nations, Borah uttered those words on "little Americans" so often quoted. The resonant vibrant voice rang out in clear tones of steel: "Sir, since the debate opened months ago those of us who have stood against this proposition have been taunted many times with being little Americans. Leave us the word Americans, keep that in your presumptuous impeachment, and no taunt can disturb us, no jibe discompose our purposes. Call us little Americans if you will, but leave us the consolation and the pride which the term, Americans, however modified, still imparts."

At the close of this speech, Senator Henry Cabot Lodge, of Massachusetts, was in tears. Later Lodge said: "When I find myself in tears, I know I am listening to a great speech." Democrat Tom Marshall, vice-president of the United States, and at the time presiding over the Senate, wrote Borah a note: "May a mummy say that you almost galvanized him to life." From the newspaper boys came a note: "The Battalion of Death of the press gallery salutes the Mirabeau of the new freedom."

When President Franklin D. Roosevelt offered his Supreme Court plan, Borah made another of his great fights. He saw the measure could be defeated only by a coalition of Democrats and Republicans opposed to the idea. At a Republican caucus Borah stated: "This issue is bigger than the Republican Party. We must save the Supreme Court. . . . Gentlemen, we must sacrifice every party advantage even if our party never returns to power, and stand with the Democrats who are willing to save our courts."

Ever an individualist in politics, he was a Republican, leaving that party only once. He supported that other son of Egypt, William Jennings Bryan, in 1896, in his campaign against William McKinley. Contrary to ex-

pectations Borah did not follow Theodore Roosevelt into the Progressive Party fold.

Borah, the unpredictable, cared not one whit about public opinion. He did what he felt was right without a thought of consistency. Borah could not endure making compromises—either with antagonists or with principles. He was courageous but never foolhardy, conservative but not reactionary, liberal but not radical, progressive but cautious, suspicious of the new and untried, and slow to relinquish the proven.

In debate Borah argued but never quibbled. Determined for his cause he was not contentious. Borah had the knack of differing without offending. Always courteous, the fairness of his manner disarmed his adversary. Never stooping to ridicule, sarcasm, or abuse, he could disagree without arousing antagonism. A noble voice, backed by compelling logic and sound argument, all couched in the simplest of language, made him a mighty pleader for the causes he championed.

Borah was popular with the newspaper men. He never high-hatted them. He never repudiated an interview. He never lied to the reporters. His own slips and mistakes he never thought of blaming on the boys of the press. He was no "buck passer." He never whined nor complained.

Borah was human. Ray McKaig, writing in the *Boise Capital News*, relates a story of Borah seldom heard. In Moscow, Idaho, a great dedicatory service was held which was followed by a reception at the university, with Borah the guest of honor. Present were all the regents, deans, professors, and dignitaries of the college, the leaders of the social set of the community, and the men of wealth and prominence of that section of the state—all in formal attire. Borah was clad in a dark brown business suit.

Suddenly, above the low voiced, refined, conversational

hum of the assemblage, loud voices and harsh sounds were heard as two lumberjacks of the timber country, clad in blue blouses and overalls, treading on their heavy boots, pushed their way through the crowd. Unshaven, they were a decided contrast to the other guests. Their opening remark was: "We traveled one hundred miles to hear Bill Borah and lost out because of a flat tire. Now, by God, we're going to see him."

Borah greeted them as warmly as he had any of the "high-brows," took them to one side, talked to them for fully fifteen minutes. The show meanwhile went on without its honored guest. The visiting professor from Harvard University was fascinated by the scene in the bay window. "Very unique, you know. Do you have many such experiences out here in the West? Do you know, I like it." With their hands full of the polite, skinny sandwiches, the lumberjacks started to leave, offered a labored apology for the intrusion, and then burst out, "If you have any sense at all you'll vote for Bill Borah for president." They left, the Senator returned to his place in the reception line, the most serene person in the room. Lumberjack or college president, an American was all the same to Bill Borah.

Borah never accepted any money from the National Republican Committee. He never spent more than five hundred dollars upon a campaign. He never failed of re-election. Five times he was re-elected to the Senate. Perhaps the best characterization of Borah's code would be the lines from Brian Hooker's translation of Edmond Rostand's *Cyrano de Bergerac*:

"What would you have me do?

Seek the patronage of some great man,
And like a creeping vine on a tall tree
Crawl upward, where I cannot stand alone?
No; thank you."

Borah stood alone. He was not unsocial, but he did

not make close friends. What friends he had came to him as a matter of course. He sought no favors. By these methods he kept himself clear of entangling alliances; he retained his own self-respect; he remained honest in all his advocacies.

When Senator Moses, of New Hampshire, styled Borah and some of his associates as "sons of wild jackasses," Borah's reply, which ended the exchange, was, "Well—tame jackasses always wear collars."

Senator under seven different presidents, he differed with all of them at times. He fought all of them at one time or another. He was in their bad graces continually. President Taft had his name removed from the social list of the White House. Yet all seven of the presidents respected Borah. They all knew he was beyond the touch of things mundane and low, that his honor was of the highest, and his love of his country as great as any ever known. Above the reach of presidents, he ever was the servant of the common man.

Oratory seems to come from the open spaces. Perhaps the boys of the soil recite to provide themselves company. Likewise memory seems to develop more with the same boys. Borah was an orator that charmed all who heard him. His memory was prodigious. His office staff frequently could hear the rumble of his voice as he read through two or three times some article, quotation, or poem, which thereby would be fixed so firmly in his memory that he could call it forth on occasion as desired.

When speaking the Senator did not read his speech. He spoke from very meager notes. His words flowed freely; his sentences well formed, his grammar and diction excellent.

Borah was mentioned frequently as a presidential candidate. In 1936, his name was placed before the Republican National Convention. When the tide swung

to Alfred Landon, of Kansas, the other candidates switched to Landon's support. That is, all except Borah. Borah refused to turn his votes to Landon, disagreeing with the choice and refusing to make it unanimous. His reasons were his objections to the straddle on the planks of the platform. Borah never gave up his principles to be expeditious. Frequently he would say: "It may be expedient—but it isn't right."

Borah was a simple man—he enjoyed simple things, simple people. He frequented the benches in Rock Creek Park, Washington, and liked to converse with the casual passers-by. He rode daily, unless the footing was too slick for Jester. The orange was considered by the Senator to be one of the best foods God gave to man. "Keeps your teeth good late in life."

The Senator always had some fruit in his pocket, brought from home. Around noon, he would peel and eat that apple, peach, or plum. A short time before his death, he gave a newspaper man a peach from Idaho with all the pleasure and pride of a young man giving his sweetheart a box of candy.

Borah never learned to drive an automobile. At first he used a street car to go to the Capitol. When a bus line was routed past his hotel home, he switched to it. The one automobile he owned was a small sedan which was used by "Little Borah."

At times the Senator seemed to be just a great big boy. He was a great lover of ice cream, preferring sundaes made with crushed fresh fruit, and, in the absence of such fruit, his next choice was chocolate syrup. Pop-eye was no friend of Borah's. The Senator hated spinach and would have none of it. He desired his steaks rare, claiming rare meat was the more easily digested.

The boy from Egypt, who became a leader in the Senate, enjoyed fun and liked humor, but would not indulge in, nor countenance, smut or cheapness at any time.

Never a drinker nor a smoker, Borah was an advocate of national prohibition. He might be characterized as a liberal in thought, a near left-winger, but withal a practical thinker not prone to go off on a wild tangent of extreme liberalism. Borah was one Republican the Solid South would listen to, respect, and follow.

Borah was against the Woman Suffrage Amendment. He was a believer in the right of women to vote and to take part in the affairs of government, but he believed the right of suffrage was exclusively the right of the various states. As a strong fighter for those states' rights, he must be against the Suffrage Bill. It was not the popular side to take, but take it he did. His constituency seemed to understand his peculiar quirk—a quirk unknown to many candidates for public office—of voicing and voting his convictions regardless of the possible consequences to himself.

Borah never ran from a fight, nor did he seek one. No threat ever deterred him from what he thought was his duty. He never had a political machine, nor did he need one. He opposed issues, not men. He never sought personal glory. The best expression of his philosophy is his own: "I would sooner lose in a right cause than win in a wrong cause. As long as I can distinguish between right and wrong, I shall do what I believe to be right—whatever the consequences."

Borah was never abroad. He cared not for travel. Rumor in Washington claimed he would not cross the ocean because a fortune teller told him he would be lost at sea. The facts disprove this. Twice he had reservations to sail for Europe, but both times he had to cancel them due to unexpected business in Washington.

Although never a visitor in any country outside of his own, the Senator was not unknown to the other nations of the world. It is a worthy commentary on the character of the man from Wayne County, Illinois, that upon

his death, the official messages of condolences from foreign nations received by the Department of State, with one exception, came not from the great powers, but from the small and the oppressed nations of the world: China, Cuba, El Salvador, Honduras, Hungary, Latvia, Nicaragua, Sweden, Venezuela, and the Soviet Union. He was appreciated abroad by the same people who appreciated him in his own country. He aimed not for the great but for the good; not for those with prestige, but for the common people. Likewise his interest in nations was fundamentally with those of lesser strength, of those oppressed, of those usually overlooked by smaller men.

From 1924 to 1933, Borah was the chairman of the Senate Committee of Foreign Relations, probably the most important post in an administration, next to that of president. Upon Franklin D. Roosevelt's accession to the presidency, Borah became the ranking minority member of that same committee.

Although he had left his native State, he never forgot the old home and friends. He wrote to the editor of the *Fairfield Press* in 1924: "I take it up week after week and year after year and old faces crowd my memory, old landmarks rise up before me. I see again as in boyhood days dear old Wayne County, Illinois, and all its wholesome life and sturdy men and women. Those of kin and those of friendship, together with the thousands of incidents which neither change of place nor the flight of years can efface, come trooping in upon me."

The last speech made by Senator Borah was delivered on October 2, 1939. The Senate was crowded as usual. Amid an expectant silence he began his speech. At its close there was scarcely a dry eye in the chamber. Silently senator after senator, Democrat as well as Republican, antagonist as well as supporter, filed past him and shook his hand. Just a little more than three months

later the voice of the "Lion of Idaho" was stilled forever.

When on January 19, 1940, death removed the senatorial toga from the shoulders of William E. Borah, no spot was found upon it, not even the scintilla of a stain. No worthier wearer of the robe ever has stood in the Senate of the United States, the greatest legislative body in the world. Borah took his place along side of Webster, Clay, Calhoun. Time will enhance his glory, will advance him in his place, will give him the honor that only the common peoples of the world had sense enough to see and appreciate during his lifetime.

Senator Arthur H. Vandenberg, of Michigan, speaking at memorial services held by the Senate, said: "His fame leaped the boundaries of his native land and spanned the earth. Borah! It was an electric name in any capital on earth. Borah! It was a magnet to draw the throngs of our common citizenship whenever he appeared. Borah! It was the personification of human aspiration at countless hearth stones beneath the Stars and Stripes. Borah! If only we could still hear him answer 'present' in these cataclysmic times."

V.

Father of Illinois Constitution—

Elias Kent Kane

By Barbara Burr Hubbs

THE New Deal plan to build a canal across the Isthmus of Florida aroused considerable controversy when it was proposed a few years ago. To the citizens of the United States it seemed something new. Some sage has said that every so often the world repeats itself. Scientists talk of cycles. As evidence we offer our own Elias Kent Kane, senator from Illinois.

The Florida Canal Bill was one of the measures before the Senate in the spring of 1826. The bitter John Randolph of Roanoke raised the question of constitutionality. Senator Kane took a broader view, that the bill was no more unconstitutional than those laws which provided for the survey of our coast. In his opinion, the object was not to promote a specific improvement, but to protect commerce.

The bill failed to pass, but the Illinois Senator could have claimed (if gifted with enough foresight) to have been the original Illinois Senator to support a New Deal idea.

Elias Kent Kane is given first credit among the authors of the original constitution of the sovereign State of Illinois. As Illinois' first secretary of state, he colored the administrative policies of our first governor. He continued his service to the infant State as United States senator and died in that service.

Senator Kane was born in the year 1794. His family had been prominent in the affairs of New York State for almost half a century. He was the only child of Elias Kane's first marriage. His father was the ninth child born to the marriage of Captain John Kane and Sybil Kent. This grandmother of the Illinois Senator was aunt to the famous Chancellor James Kent of New York State.

Captain John Kane came from Ireland to New York soon after the middle of the eighteenth century. He

married a daughter of the Reverend Elisha Kent, a graduate of Yale College, and settled in Dutchess County. There the second and third generations of Kanes were born and brought up. Another proponent of the Florida Canal, Franklin Delano Roosevelt, called Dutchess County, home.

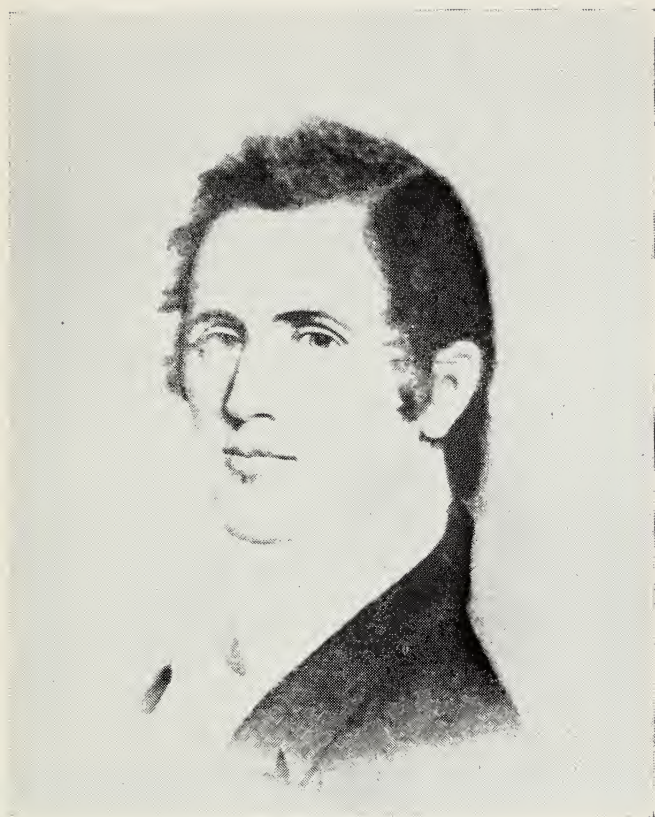
As his sons grew to manhood, Captain Kane established a mercantile business, which became extensive as time passed, with branches in Utica, Whitesboro, and Albany. The Kanes were all educated men with comfortable fortunes, until the War of 1812 ruined their business. Perhaps this failure gave Illinois one of its most prominent early citizens.

Elias Kent Kane bore his father's first name and the proud family name of his grandmother. He received an excellent education and was graduated from Yale College, the Alma Mater of his New England great-grandfather. After young Kane was granted the Bachelor of Arts degree in 1813, he spent a few months reading law in the office of Ralph J. Ingersoll, who became a figure in the American diplomatic service. About the turn of the year, the law student set out to find the proper place to hang his shingle.

Men of ambition and ability were seeking the new communities of the West because of the great possibilities afforded for political leadership. In his search for a theater worthy of the ambitions he entertained for his future, young Kane went to Tennessee.

The spring of 1814 was the time of Andrew Jackson's war with the Creek Indians. Whether Kane met the hero of Tennessee that year we do not know, but he certainly imbibed the enthusiastic admiration he displayed ever after for the victor of New Orleans.

Before that famous battle was fought, Kane had left Tennessee for Illinois. Family letters show confusion at his frequent moves during these months, but 1814



ELIAS KENT KANE



Above—Felicite Peltier Kane. Below—Ruins of Kane home in Randolph County near Chester.



saw him permanently established at Kaskaskia, center of the territorial government in Illinois. He was only twenty, but he began the practice of law immediately.

Elias Kent Kane is described as being tall, florid in complexion, and kindly in expression. His manner was affable, and he became popular with all classes of society. His disposition was scholarly, and quickly he became intimate with the judges of the territorial courts. Soon he was reckoned one of the most promising of the younger lawyers at the Kaskaskia Bar.

He wrote his father of the bright prospects Illinois provided for his future, and mentioned that he considered establishing himself as a man of family as well as a lawyer. Elias Kane answered: "I have always been an advocate of early marriages, and I confess I was pleased with your communication on that subject. I think a discreet wife, with reputable connections, will prove advantageous to you in many respects. It will have a tendency to make you steady and bring your views principally to one great object, namely, the maintenance of your wife and family."

The son neglected to mention the name of the lady whom he wished to make his wife, perhaps until he could be sure that his proposal would be accepted. Much more than the sensible reasoning of his father entered into the match, if we consider the close of Senator Kane's letter dated January 20, 1831: "Kiss my dear children. And remember, Yr. affec. Kane." The marriage took place in 1816.

Felicite Peltier Kane was a woman of French extraction, a member of society which regarded the Americans in Kaskaskia as newcomers. Her family had been established in Illinois for generations. Her grandfather lent nearly two thousand dollars to Lieutenant Colonel John Montgomery, on duty, in 1780, recruiting the Kaskaskia regiment for George Rogers Clark. Her con-

nections, undoubtedly, proved valuable to her husband in a situation where he had to rely solely upon his own capacity.

Kane's talent for his profession was recognized from his first appearance. Judge Sidney Breese acknowledged his fellow York-stater as his "early legal instructor and friend, one who had always held the first rank at the bar of the state, . . . who had never proved deficient in answering any requisition that had been made upon his abilities, and against whose integrity as a man and a lawyer no imputation had ever been made."

Politics and the law had their customary close association in those early days at Kaskaskia. Kane's abilities included those of a shrewd, talented politician. The natural ease of his manner enabled him to meet the varying types of the frontier at an advantage. His superior education marked him as a leader.

In the territorial days of Illinois, politics was not concerned so much with governmental policies, as with the advancement of factions. Men combined for the purpose of seeking appointive offices, either local or territorial. Personal preferences caused division in opinion, as did the existence of parties for the advancement of particular individuals and their friends.

Ninian Edwards, as territorial governor since 1809, was the leader of one such faction. Aligned with him were Nathaniel Pope, first secretary of Illinois Territory and its delegate to Congress; Daniel Pope Cook, the brilliant young lawyer who first proposed statehood for Illinois; Leonard White, United States agent at the Gallatin Salines; and Thomas C. Browne, a Shawneetown lawyer who later served as one of the first supreme court judges of the State.

Judge Jesse B. Thomas of the territorial courts led the opposition. Kane soon became his chief reliance in the anti-administration contest. In the spring of 1815

Judge Thomas visited Albany, New York. He met Elias Kane, and pleased the father with warm reports of the son's ability and growing importance.

John McLean, before whom stretched a brilliant career in the legislative councils of both Illinois and the Nation, was an intimate friend of Kane. McLean was establishing himself as a lawyer at Shawneetown at the time Kane was looking for clients on the western border of the State.

Early recognition of Elias Kent Kane's abilities came from Washington. Territorial circuit courts for Illinois were established in 1818, and Kane was appointed one of the six judges. Their salaries were set at \$1200 per annum. Kane was assigned to the eastern circuit which centered at Shawneetown. Gallatin County had no courthouse in those days, and court was held in flat boats drawn up on the bank of the Ohio River. The judge, jury, and counsel occupied one boat, while the parties to the suit and the spectators followed the court's action as well as they could from a nearby dock.

His duties took Judge Kane away from his home in Kaskaskia. Mrs. Kane remained there, occupied with their infant children. Greater opportunity soon recalled him.

In April 1818, the Congress passed the enabling act under which Illinois would proceed to statehood. The preparation of a constitution was the first step, and a convention was called to meet at the territorial capital.

The same issue of *The Intelligencer* (the Kaskaskia newspaper) that announced the passage of the enabling act by the United States Senate, also announced the candidacy of Elias K. Kane, "for the Convention from the county of Randolph." The election was fixed for the first Monday in July 1818, and the two following days, while the convention was to meet on the first Monday in August.

Kane seemed to have taken for granted his own election as delegate. He is said to have announced that, if Doctor Fisher should be elected his colleague, he would consider himself instructed to vote for the introduction of slavery, but if Mr. McFerron was elected his colleague, then he would consider himself instructed to vote against slavery. Doctor George Fisher was elected, with the confident Kane, to represent Randolph County in the Constitutional Convention.

On Monday, August 3, 1818, the convention opened at Kaskaskia. That quaint French town must have been the scene of much excitement on that momentous day. The tavern was filled with the leading citizens from the fifteen counties that composed the Territory of Illinois. Residents of the town were holding open house for their friends among the visitors. The urbane Kane must have been a prominent figure at this unofficial reception.

Judge Jesse B. Thomas was elected president of the convention. Kane was appointed chairman of a committee to examine the delegates' credentials, and then of a second committee to examine the census returns. A special census had been taken to determine whether the territorial population met the figure set by Congress as necessary before Illinois could become a state. Preliminaries disposed of, the convention set about the business of writing a constitution.

"A committee of fifteen, one from each county . . . to frame and report to the convention a constitution for the people of the territory of Illinois" was appointed. Leonard White of Gallatin County was chairman of this committee, but Elias Kent Kane seems, from all accounts, to have been its guiding spirit. The pages of the convention journal constantly repeat the phrase, "On the motion of mr. Kane" His prominence is not surprising since he was one of five lawyers among

the thirty-three delegates, and his education was outstanding for the time and place.

The draft of the constitution was reported out by the committee of fifteen on Wednesday, August 12. To a large extent it had been copied from the constitutions of neighboring states. A provision for a council of revision, composed of the governor and the supreme court judges, this council to approve all laws passed by the general assembly, was taken from the New York Constitution of 1777.

Section by section the constitution was read and revised by the convention as a whole. For these services, of untold effect upon the future of this State, each member of the convention was paid four dollars a day. The document was signed and the convention adjourned on Wednesday, August 26, 1818.

This constitution is unique in that it never was voted upon by the people whom it bound. It was the first organic law of any state to abolish imprisonment for debt.

Delegates scarcely had returned to their homes, when the first election was held under the new constitution. Shadrach Bond was elected governor without opposition. John McLean was named as Illinois' first representative (as a state) in the United States Congress.

Governor Bond was inaugurated on October 6, 1818. On the same day he appointed Elias Kent Kane his secretary of state. The new constitution provided, article 3, section 20: "The governor shall nominate, and by and with the advice and consent of the senate, appoint a secretary of state who shall keep a fair register of the official acts of the governor, and when required shall lay the same, and all papers, minutes, and vouchers relative thereto before either branch of the general assembly and shall perform such other duties as shall be assigned to him by law." For these services, the secretary drew an annual salary of \$600.

Letters of the time acknowledged Kane as the chief ruler of the State. Governor Bond had no school training, so the ability of his secretary had free play. Kane even was accused of exercising undue influence upon his superior.

Daniel Pope Cook wrote Ninian Edwards, in discussing the latter's re-election as United States senator: "You believe Governor Bond to be your friend—I do not. The nest which float around him are all against you. Kane is even supporting the senatorial division of the state" Cook refers to an attempt to divide Illinois into two senatorial districts by the meridian line, contrary to the provisions for electing United States senators contained in the National Constitution.

In spite of these schemes, Senator Edwards was re-elected. At the same session, Cook took his seat as Illinois' sole representative in the lower house of the United States Congress.

In 1820, when Cook came up for re-election, Kane was brought out as the opposing candidate, for representative in the Seventeenth Congress. The contest was largely personal, depending upon the popularity of the two men. Both favored the admission of Missouri as a state, the chief national question of interest to their constituents. The contest was heated, but resulted in an overwhelming victory for Cook. In a total of less than seven thousand votes, his majority was nearly two thousand. Kane received a flattering vote in the home county of both candidates, Randolph, which Cook carried by only twenty votes.

Kane continued his duties as secretary of state until the inauguration of Governor Coles, a pronounced anti-slavery man. On December 16, 1822, Secretary Kane resigned, to be succeeded by Samuel D. Lockwood of Madison County, Governor Coles' own appointee.

The Illinois Constitution of 1818 had not settled the

question of slavery, and a strong movement was on foot to call a convention to revise the constitution for this purpose. Bond, McLean, John Reynolds, and Kane joined forces in favor of slavery which they believed would be of material benefit to the State. This pro-slavery party established a newspaper at Kaskaskia, under the direction of Kane and Chief Justice Reynolds. Publishing *The Republican Advocate* engaged Kane's spare time from 1822 to the election of 1824. This campaign was one of the most vigorous that ever occurred in the State. At the election, the slavery party was defeated.

Kane was elected to the general assembly from Randolph County, his personal popularity stronger than the announced principles of the election. The legislature of which he was a member elected him United States senator on November 30, 1824. John McLean, who had just been elected to fill the last months of Senator Edwards' term, Governor Coles, and Samuel D. Lockwood (Kane's successor as secretary of state) were defeated when the tenth ballot was taken.

In a letter to his wife, Kane expressed his gratification that his election by the legislature, "was placed on independent grounds. I am under no obligations to any but my own immediate friends."

On March 4, 1825, Kane took his seat as the junior United States senator from Illinois. His old friend, Jesse B. Thomas, was the senior senator. Elias Kent Kane was one of the youngest men ever to hold this office. His father wrote, with the congratulations due for the "highly honorable appointment," that he was but four months past the constitutional age limit when elected. "For so young a man as you are, no higher evidence could have been given of your standing. I know of no instance where so young a man has been appointed."

One honor was heaped upon another. Yale College

heard of his distinction, and conferred the degree of Master of Arts upon him that September. Senator Kane must have been proud to be recognized by his former instructors.

The "Gentleman from Illinois" came to Congress as a pro-slavery Democrat, and while he did not carry his factional loyalty to the excess that was common in his day, he remained firm to these principles. His attitude toward the administration may be glimpsed between the lines of a letter he wrote Mrs. Kane on the day he took his seat: "Whilst the whole world seems to have pressed into the Capitol to hear John Quincy Adams make his inaugural speech, I have retired into the Senate chamber."

President Andrew Jackson was inaugurated March 4, 1829. He was supported cordially and effectively by Senator Kane, who still remained aloof from the partisan strife that marked the two Jackson administrations.

The greatest eloquence that Senator Kane ever displayed was in a speech delivered in defense of President Jackson during the spring of 1834. Henry Clay had offered a resolution condemning the President's action concerning the United States Bank. During the debate, sneering remarks were made concerning the President's allusions to his patriotic motives, and his long service for his country.

"Let the soldier count his wounds without reproach," declaimed Senator Kane. He appropriated the language of Othello's tales to Desdemona in a figure extolling the patriotic value of the recitals made by our Revolutionary heroes of their battles, sieges, and fortunes. His peroration ran:

"May our venerable President live to count his wounds, 'longer than I have time to tell his years'; and when old time shall lead him to his end, [may] patriotism, goodness, and he, fill up one monument."

The nobility of this language is almost matched by a compliment made Senator Kane by one of his friends in Illinois: "Friend Elias, you are placed as a sentinel to guard the liberties of our great republic." The writer was informing his Senator of his resignation from the postmastership, contrary to the political axiom that office holders never resign, and seldom die.

Senator Kane's popularity extended even to the point of commanding the admiration of his political opponents. George Forquer of Monroe County wrote Governor Ninian Edwards on March 18, 1830:

"Kane has talents and does his best against us, for his friends. These qualities, although they are exerted against all my wishes and *personal* interest, recommend their possessor to me in preference to a man who has no talents and is so cold-hearted, or selfish, or cowardly, that he will neither do right nor wrong, a man of mere negative virtues"

The congressional recess in the summer of 1830 allowed Kane to return to his home in Kaskaskia. There is no record of his making an active canvass, but the legislature required only one ballot to re-elect him on December 11, 1830. At the same time John M. Robinson of Carmi was elected to succeed Senator John McLean, who had died two months before.

Senator Kane served on the Senate's Committee of Public Lands. In this capacity, he was able to promote various measures that involved the interests of Illinois, and other western states. It was during this second term that he became involved in the controversy over the Bank, which became the sole topic of political conversation shortly after Andrew Jackson's re-election.

Almost insuperable were the obstacles that prevented a congressman of those days from close contact with the opinions of his constituents. Senator Kane visited Illinois as often as the difficulties of travel allowed.

Over the mountains to Wheeling by stage coach, down the Ohio to Cairo by steamboat, and then the slow trip against the current of the Mississippi to Kaskaskia or St. Louis. That was the weary way.

Worn by his duties at Washington and the exertion of the trip to Kaskaskia, fever attacked Kane in the autumn of 1835. Congress was assembling in December, and before he had recovered from his illness, Senator Kane returned to his duties. The weather was severe and exposure unavoidable. His second term was not completed. Senator Kane died on December 12, 1835, at the age of forty-one.

The bereaved father wrote to the widow: "The President sent almost every hour in the day & late at night to inquire how he was, & Mr. Van Buren was almost constantly at our house & on the last night until 12 O'C. . . ."

A Washington newspaper, the *National Intelligencer*, reported: "It is with the deepest regret that we have to announce the decease of another member of the national legislature, being the third whose departure from life we have been called upon to deplore within the brief space of five days after the assembling of congress. Honorable Elias Kent Kane, a senator from the State of Illinois, expired at the residence of his father in this city Friday last, after a severe illness of a few days"

"He was an urbane and amiable gentleman, estimable in his domestic and social relations and a useful and respected member of the senate, in which elevated body he had held a seat for ten years, the strongest proof of the high respect in which he was held by his fellow citizens at home."

The funeral was held in the old Senate Chamber of the Capitol, occupied until 1936 by the Supreme Court. The President and heads of departments attended. President Jackson must have mourned sincerely so loyal a

friend. On the committee of arrangements were Senators Benton of Missouri, Clayton of Delaware, William Hendricks of Indiana, and Crittenden of Kentucky. These were the leaders among whom Kane's last days were spent.

The body was interred in the Congressional Cemetery in Washington, where a monument stands in his memory. This marker is uniform in style with others erected over members of the Congress who died on duty in Washington. Senator Kane's ashes later were removed to a vault on the family homestead in Illinois.

Felicite Peltier Kane could not rest content until she had carried out her husband's wish "to be buried upon the place on which I reside." Their home was on the high bluff opposite Kaskaskia, and only a stone's throw from the boat landing on the bluff side of the Kaskaskia River. Today Kane's grave overlooks the reaches of the Mississippi that cover the vanished streets and houses of the old French city he made so completely his.

The elder children of that homestead on the bluff continued their father's political connections. The beloved eldest child, Marie Louisa, married William C. Kinney, son of an Illinois lieutenant governor. Their daughter, Felicite Kinney, became the wife of Gustavus Koerner, Jr., another son of a lieutenant governor. The second child, Elizabeth K. Kane, was first lady of our State as the wife of William H. Bissell, the first Republican governor. Senator Kane's eldest son was Charles Delisle Kane, clerk of the Randolph County Circuit Court at the time of his death in 1849.

Elias Kent Kane, Jr., was graduated from the military academy at West Point, served in the army on frontier duty, and was a prisoner during the Mexican War. The youngest child, Louis McLane Kane, was only four when his father died, and twenty when his mother was borne to the vault on the bluff. Then he joined a company

that left Belleville for the gold fields of California. After several years of adventure, this youngest Kane returned to Belleville, married, and reared a family, some of whom now live in Pinckneyville. There the name of Elias Kent Kane is revered as that of one of the older citizens, a grandson of the Senator from Illinois.

The name of Kane also is perpetuated in a prosperous county upon the Fox River in northern Illinois. The cities of Geneva, Aurora, Elgin, and St. Charles have come into being since the Illinois General Assembly created Kane County on January 16, 1836, as a public monument raised by a grateful State to the memory of one of those who laid the foundations for the growth of Illinois.

Elias Kent Kane will not be forgotten.

Twenty years had been enough for the young man from New York to make his mark in Illinois. The document on which the new State's government was based for thirty years is acknowledged to be largely his work. The great office of the secretary of state with its myriad departments has grown out of the "fair register" he kept. As United States senator, he received one of the greatest honors of his State, and if he had lived a few weeks longer, he would have received one of the greatest honors of the Nation, justice of the United States Supreme Court.

VI.

Mentor of Youth—
William McAndrew

By Will Griffith

ON the evening of September 21, 1939, one of the sweltering evenings of a very hot summer, at the formal opening of the Illinois State Armory, at Carbondale, Mac appeared dressed in his usual manner. As he made his way back to the stage, he was accosted by one of the citizens of the community.

"For heaven's sake, Mac, you haven't got on a vest!"

"Well, what of it?"

"Surely, Mac, you should wear a vest to preside at the meeting when Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt is to speak."

"Hell, I wouldn't wear a vest tonight, if it were the President who were going to talk, much less just his wife."

Typical. Typical of Mac. He did not believe in "putting on the dog." There were no "tin gods" to him. He was Mac, he had been Mac, and Mac he was to be until his death.

William McAndrew was born, April 29, 1887, on a farm on Allison Prairie near Lawrenceville, Lawrence County, Illinois, in the northeast corner of Egypt. The son of William and Rose Caughran McAndrew, young William was the sixth child in a family of eleven.

Of Irish stock, son of native-born American parents, the lad grew to manhood on the farm near Lawrenceville. His father was a farmer and a contractor who built many of the railroads and levees in Southern Illinois. During summer vacations, William helped his father, either on some contract nearby, or on the farm. One summer he worked with the construction gang that was building the over-the-water railroad to Key West.

Young Billy Mac is remembered by the older members of the Allison Prairie Christian Church, where he was a regular attendant at Sunday School. In his later years, he disliked to be reminded of the boyhood name of Billy Mac.

Young MacAndrew attended the Plank Road School, near his home, and then entered Vincennes University, at nearby Vincennes, Indiana. Upon graduation, he received his Bachelor of Arts degree. He spent three years at Vincennes as a student and assistant English teacher. His first military training began at Vincennes University, where, as a cadet officer, he was awarded a sword as an honor prize. From Vincennes, he went to the University of Chicago, for two years of study. Called home by the serious illness of his father, he became, the following year, a member of the faculty and coach of the athletic teams of Lawrenceville Township High School.

Different periods in a man's life are marked by the different nicknames or shortened forms of his name used by his friends and acquaintances. Those who knew Mac in Carbondale hardly knew him as Billy, but in Lawrence County he remains Billy McAndrew.

From Lawrenceville High School, Mac came to Southern Illinois Normal University in September 1913. For thirty years, with just a little time off for a war and some additional study, he presided over the Physical Education Department of the university, and was Director of Athletics. Lest some think that he was lopsided along athletic lines, it may be mentioned that he was just as earnest and untiring a worker in all civic movements and all other phases of scholastic life.

Mac well might have been called a "trouble shooter." It made no difference—if two faculty members became "at outs," if some of the more ebullient boys indulged in some extreme pranks, if factionalism became rampant in the faculty, if that breath that so often scorches began to be felt, the word would be "send for Mac." He would be sent for, and the bothersome matter ironed out with all parties remaining his devoted friends.

Those who knew Mac well cannot tell just what he did, just what it was, that set him apart from others.

WILLIAM McANDREW

PHOTO BY C. CLIFF GRINDLE, CARBONDALE.



Mac shows with chalk, the strategy to be used in game.



Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt shakes hands with Mac.



They cannot cite many specific acts that can be mentioned as indicative of his ability, or his worth to the community. Mac's worth was more of an intangible nature. Something, that without it one would be aware of its absence, but with it would accept it as a matter of course.

Mac did not care for fuss and feathers. The night of the opening of the Illinois State Armory, at Carbondale, press photographers asked him for a picture shaking hands with Mrs. Roosevelt. Mac demurred. "None of that funny stuff, fellows." Just then his eyes lifted and there was Eleanor Roosevelt with out-stretched hand, smiling and fully aware of his remarks. There was nothing for it. The flashlights gave a momentary brilliance to the scene. An embarrassed Mac grinned and shook the hand of the President's wife.

Thousands of men scattered today on every continent of the globe offer vivid testimony of the influence of William McAndrew on the youth of Egypt. He, in his capacity as Coach and Director of Athletics, at Southern Illinois Normal University, was mentor, friend, and father confessor to his students. No living person can begin to appraise the scope of his influence. His work will live for years and years in the boys he trained and taught in the manly way of life.

Never a seeker of the limelight, never a pusher forward, never currying favor, never wishy-washy, never at a loss to express himself forcefully, Mac made many friends and some enemies. A man should be judged by the enemies he makes, not the friends he acquires. Mac had enemies—not many, but some—and for reasons.

Southern never has subsidized athletics; in fact Mac unalterably was opposed to such practices. Southern never has been a large school with many thousands of young men from which to draw its teams. Mac took the material at hand and through the years was a con-

sistent winner. Mac liked to win, but was always a good loser. He instilled in his boys a love of the game, a sense of fair play, and the other manly virtues.

Not a strict disciplinarian, his teams sometimes seemed to take advantage of his good nature, but when the pinch came the boys never hesitated to give to him that last ounce of devotion. At his death, many letters came from boys scattered throughout the world expressing their grief at the loss of a "friend." The cynic says that a friend is one who goes down in his pocket when asked. By all definitions of friendship, cynical or otherwise, Mac qualified. He constantly was giving former students a lift with a "five spot" here and a "ten spot" there. He never made a record of a loan.

Mac was never a stickler for the formal. The story is told—that when a young man from the east became a member of the faculty of Southern, to work in the Athletic Department, Mac, in his first talk with the young man, said: "Now we are very informal here in the Athletic Department. Everyone calls me Mac; Lingle is 'Doc' to everyone; and so forth. Son, what is your first name?" The young man answered quietly: "Vincent." "Hell, boy, even your mother wouldn't call you that. From now on, you're Joe." And to this day the name has stuck. Everyone knows him as Joe Di-Giovanna.

Mac's vocabulary was an expressive one. If some of his phraseology were used by others, it would be deemed profanity. Never with Mac. It was just a part of him. There was no desire on his part to indulge in rude or coarse language—he just wanted to express himself—express himself forcefully. One day, Mac was called away from his office just as he had started to dictate some letters. He told his secretary to write the letters as per quickly sketched instructions. "Sign my name and mail them. You'd better put in a few hells and

damns or else they won't think I wrote them." With his quizzical smile he rushed away.

Not satisfied with just a Bachelor's degree, Mac studied and took extra courses at various schools. He attended Cumberland University at Lebanon, Tennessee, where he was graduated with a law degree. He did postgraduate work at Peabody, Southern Methodist, and Drury College. In addition to these scholastic studies, he attended many special athletic and coaching short courses under such well known men as Alonzo Stagg, Knute Rockne, and "Pop" Warner. Mac attended the first coaches' school at the University of Illinois, instituted by the veteran Director of Athletics, George Huff. Stagg and Rockne were his lifelong friends.

Mac passed the bar examination in three states. He became a member of the Illinois Bar in 1921, of the Tennessee Bar in 1919, and the Arkansas Bar in 1920.

Until the outbreak of the first World War, Mac devoted his efforts to athletic work at Southern. With the declaration of war, he entered the first Officers' Training Camp at Fort Sheridan, Illinois, and was commissioned a captain of infantry, August 1917. Stationed first at Camp Grant, then at the University of Chicago, and then back again at Camp Grant, he spent practically a year instructing recruits in military tactics. In the summer of 1918, he sailed for France as Captain of Company F, Three Hundred Forty-First Infantry, Eighty-sixth Division.

Mac's superior officer, Colonel A. A. Sprague, wrote: "It is very difficult for me to put my finger on any particular act of 'Captain Mac,' as I always called him, that made him such an outstanding officer and such a great help to me when I had command of the 2nd Battalion of the 341st Infantry. Captain Mac's Company, Company F, was always the company that gave me the least worry

"Mac was terribly seasick on the way over. It took us fourteen days to go from New York to Liverpool, and he frequently made the statement that he was not coming back to America until they built a bridge across the Atlantic. However, as you probably may know, the troops on board any ship remain under the command of the officer in charge of troops and not under the officer commanding the ship, and in spite of Mac's real suffering, the inspections, which had to be made continuously, were always made, and this was at a time when inspections were of vital importance, as the flu was just coming into the United States at that time and we knew little about it until it hit us

"I can only say about Mac, and this is sincere, that I always relied on him more than on any other of the captains in my battalion, not only as a commanding officer of the company, but as a friend."

Upon arrival in England, and while in that period of acclimation and training all troops had to be put through before going to France, Mac acquired a severe attack of influenza. One certain day, the word came through that the regiment was to embark for France the following day. With a temperature of 103, Mac walked the English streets and countryside, fighting the fever, determined not to be left behind, refusing to admit to anyone that he was indisposed in any way. He won the fight and, still in the throes of the epidemic disease, took his company across to French soil.

Mac often said that the men of his regiment were the only persons in the world who were disappointed when the Armistice came. The regiment was on its way to a front line position at the time. Instead of the gratification of a heroic service under fire, Mac had to be content with routine duties following the cessation of fighting. Nevertheless, his superior officers remember his efficiency as an officer, and his readiness to assume

any task, no matter how herculean. Mac returned to the United States in the summer of 1919, and was honorably discharged August 7, 1919.

Upon his return to the United States, Mac extended his leave of absence from Southern, to complete his law course, and to qualify as a lawyer. He never practiced law, instead, returned to the Carbondale school and took up his duties as head of the Athletic Department. At the outbreak of war in 1941, Mac immediately applied for active service, offering to serve in any capacity as an officer, or as a private. To his great disappointment he was rejected for age and physical reasons.

Unable to serve his country in the fighting forces, Mac, upon the organization of the Illinois Reserve Militia, was commissioned a lieutenant colonel by the Governor. Later he was promoted to Colonel of the Fourth Infantry, and just a few months before his death to Brigadier General of the Third Brigade. In his work with the reserve militia, he traveled by car more than five thousand miles on inspection trips, served on riot and flood duty throughout the State, and, after our declaration of war on the Axis in 1941, participated in the guarding of the important bridges and other strategic and vital points of the area, until that work was taken over by the United States Army.

Mac coached football twenty years, basketball twenty-five years, baseball four years, and track two years. As a coach he must be rated a success. In spite of the many handicaps he experienced at Southern through no fault of his or of the school, he turned out many winning teams. His football team of 1930-31 went through a season and a half without losing a game. Mac developed several players who rated as big time stars. Glenn "Abe" Martin, now a member of the Athletic Department of Southern, and coach of football and basketball, was a

member of that championship team. After graduation, Martin played for several seasons with the professional Chicago Cardinals football team.

It may have been forgotten by some, but Mac was called the "old squirrel" by many of his boys. That sobriquet was acquired in this way. Harry Canada was a student at Southern. To help defray expenses, Canada worked in a barber shop on Friday evenings and on Saturdays. Mac, of course, patronized him—one of his boys. Came the day when the price of shaves was raised. Mac good-humoredly was razzing Canada about the raise in price. He received the reply: "Well, if you stood here and had to shave old squirrels like you all day long, you would think it worth it." Mac told it on himself. The "old squirrel" stuck for several years. Canada, by the way, was another of Mac's stars, who was a member of the 1930 championship football team, and who went to the finals of the Golden Gloves in 1930.

Mac's teams always were well drilled in fundamentals. His players enjoyed playing. He never "balled out" a player immediately after taking him out of the game. Although his basketball teams never won a championship, they consistently finished near the top of the conference.

Mac bought only the highest quality equipment for use by his boys.

A bald head, above blue eyes protected with spectacles, topped a well poised and balanced body. The height was five feet ten inches and the weight 150 pounds. Always in the best of health, Mac, who had played professional baseball in the Kitty League in his youth as a team mate of former Governor John Stelle, delighted to participate in the intramural baseball games at Southern. At the age of forty he was able to hold his own on the baseball diamond with his boys of the early twenties.

Mac was intensely interested in recreation. He felt that if recreation were provided for Americans, a better race physically and morally would result. He attended many national meetings in the interest of recreation.

Mac's philosophy was one of kindness. He could be hard when no other method would avail. His especial technique was to start in a seeming roughshod manner and then taper off until the culprit was overwhelmed by his kindness, and as a result would become his loyal follower. In sport, Mac had no desire to win by lopsided scores. Many times when a football game was well in hand, and an overwhelming score could have been rolled up by the regular team, Mac casually would withdraw his better players until he had given every man on the squad a few minutes in the game. Mac preferred to win by a reasonably close score, thereby giving the spectators a more thrilling game, and at the same time not "rubbing it in" on the opposing coach and team. Such consideration was characteristic of Mac.

Many of Mac's friends knew only the professional side of his nature. They may not have known of his personal traits. The man of the athletic world, the man who instilled the fight in his teams, loved nothing better than to go to the country and hunt wild flowers. At his home he created a wild flower garden, carefully transplanting many, many wild flowers.

Mac loved ice cream. He preferred a piece of plain bread with it. No cake for him. Late at night after a hard day of scholastic or civic work, a steak, with French fried potatoes and a cup of coffee, was his desire.

Mac was never a fanatic. In personal habits he was temperate. Neither was he a hypocrite. He did as he felt proper and all the criticism in the world could not have changed him. Nor would he deviate from his normal ways just to make a good impression on some influential citizen.

At one time in his career at Southern, a vacancy occurred in the presidency. Mac wanted the office. It, probably, was his great ambition. Up until a few hours before the new president was named, Mac hoped to get the job. He did not. When the new president arrived at the college, Mac went to him. "You know and I know that I wanted the job. You got it, I didn't. That is all in the past. You will have my most earnest support." A handshake was given, two men became friends.

In politics, Mac was a Democrat, but, as he once expressed it: "I don't think wings have started to grow on the President." There you have Mac. Always with a sane view of life. Always a realist. Always a liberal, always tolerant. He probably had more close friends who were Republicans than were Democrats.

On April 18, 1931, Virginia Caldwell, daughter of Judge and Mrs. A. S. Caldwell, leading citizens of Egypt, and William McAndrew were married by the Reverend Charles J. Pardee, pastor of the First Christian Church of Carbondale.

At home, Mac was ever a reader of serious books. With the ability to scan a page and grab from it the salient points, Mac was a fast reader. A pencil was ever present and his library is well marked and annotated. With the outbreak of trouble in Europe, Mac began to buy, and to read all available books on the European situation, and on the strategy of war.

Always an ardent patriot, Mac had no time for the namby-pamby attitude of some of our citizens. Speaking publicly he said: "Right now I do not care whether you were an isolationist, one of those who said there would never be any more wars, or not; if you said no nation could get at us because the Atlantic protected us on the East, the Pacific on the West, I can forget such a belief. If you believed that Europe and Asia could be on fire with burning brands of destructive war and not

affect us, well and good. *But I am concerned with what belief and what attitude you have NOW!"*

Mac had advocated R. O. T. C. for years and always had opposed disarmament.

As might be expected, Mac was a vigorous foe of communism, wherever it raised its head. No mincing of words on his part. No fear of the position of the advocate. It was Mac's eternal Americanism that endeared him to his boys; it was his manly stand that gave his influence backing; it was his forthright plain speaking that made him effective in his work of developing character while building up the physical houses of his boys.

Mac was well known throughout the United States in athletic circles. He was one of the organizers of the Illinois Intercollegiate Athletic Conference. He had served as its president, and was its secretary at the time of his death. For several years at each meeting he offered an amendment which came to be known as the McAndrew amendment. Although failing of passage, nevertheless it brought to the front some of the inconsistencies of athletic rules. Mac's idea was that it was wrong to forbid a student the right to play on a college team just because he was below a certain grade in some subject. He contended that as long as the school allowed the student to remain in school that student had as much right to play on an athletic team as he did to attend a mathematics class. Mac argued that it would be just as right to bar a student from a mathematics class because he was deficient in work in physical education.

In addition to his many duties in the educational field, Mac found time for many and varied outside interests. He was a past commander of the American Legion Post at Carbondale, and also of the Twenty-fifth District; a past exalted ruler of the Elks; past president of the

Carbondale Business Men's Association; past president of the Little Nineteen Athletic Conference; and a director of the Carbondale Building Loan and Homestead Association. At Chicago University, he became a member of the Phi Kappa Psi Fraternity. Many athletic and educational organizations had his membership.

Mac, as Director of Athletics at Southern Illinois Normal University, moved the athletic field from old Baylis Field to what is now known as the "old athletic field," and in time from there to the present "new athletic field," with its track. He built the new gymnasium, and the stadium. The last was almost a personal job. Funds were raised by him from various sources, personal supervision of the contractors was his, as were several of the features of arrangement. In the program for the enlargement of the school to a complete liberal arts university, Mas was instrumental in the acquisition of thirty acres of land to the west of the present campus where will be built a new athletic field, play fields, and a field house.

In 1941, Mac took the Southern Illinois Normal University basketball team to Mexico City, for a game with the Mexico City Y. M. C. A. team. This team had played at Carbondale, and Mac was returning the engagement. The Egyptian boys suffered from the high altitude, and could not play up to their usual standard. To his wife, from Mexico City, Mac wrote: "Yesterday we saw the so-called floating gardens and in the afternoon all went to the bull fight. It was held in a large circular stadium seating 25,000 people. A spectacular and not too bloody exhibition. Talk about wild crowds at our athletic events, these Latins do carry on.

"Took all the kids to a grand old church and to the pyramids today. The church is the richest thing I ever saw, gold and silver, built by the Spaniards years ago. And such devoted people. The church is as big as any

church I have ever seen and seems to be used principally by the poor. We climbed to the top of one of the pyramids, the biggest one. Had the boys' picture taken at the Embassy with Mr. Daniels. The kids had a great time. The kids can't play a lick. After about five minutes they have no wind and resting them seems to do no good. I tell them they look like slow motion pictures. And they want so badly to make a good showing."

Casual acquaintances of Mac would never appreciate the depth of the man. Two of his favorite poems indicate his outlook on life: Sam Walter Foss' *The House by the Side of the Road*; and *About Ben Adhem* by Leigh Hunt. A perusal of these two poems will highlight a similar thought. "Let me live in my house by the side of the road and be a friend to man," and "Write me as one that loves his fellow-men."

Many and varied were the telegrams, letters, and floral offerings at the time of Mac's sudden death, February 11, 1943. From former students then in the armed forces in the South Pacific, from military men high in the present army, from millionaires, from men in modest circumstances, from men of various colors, different creeds, and opposite political faiths came the last testimony of their devotion to their friend.

From Doctor A. W. Spring, of Colp, Illinois, whose race is a much darker one than was Mac's, came a single, beautiful pink rose with an accompanying card which read: "In this beautiful world of ours, you gave me a sip of the milk of human kindness, when I needed it most. Now, Comrade, I give you a rose."

VII.

From Miner to College President—

Joseph R. Harker

By Will Griffith

ON a windswept hill in Durham County, England, a coal miner talked of the future to his son. He told of the opportunities there were in the land on the other side of the Atlantic Ocean. He told the son that someday they would go there.

The coal miner was Ralph Harker, who with his wife Mary, and their family, lived in one of the homes in a row of company houses known as "Milk and Water Row" near Rainton Gate, not far from the Durham Cathedral.

The son, Joseph R. Harker, was born June 30, 1853. The men of the family had been coal miners for generations. Ekeing out a bare existence on the miserable pay of the English coal miner of those days, the family endured life on the father's pay of approximately one pound (five dollars) a week, augmented by whatever the mother could earn "working out." The mother worked in private homes and, during the season, as a reaper in the wheat fields, wielding a sickle to cut the grain from which bread would be made. The children of the family followed the reapers and salvaged the "gleanings," thereby getting enough of the grain to be taken to the mill and ground into flour to furnish the family bread for several months. This bread was baked in the company oven. Outdoor ovens were installed in each block of the rows of company houses. The housewives carried their dough to the oven, baked it, and then carried the week's supply of bread back to the impoverished home.

In later years, Joseph Harker, telling of his youth to prove the superiority of the United States to any nation, said that he never had used a regular bathtub until he was twenty-five years old.

Father Harker could not read nor write, but was blessed with a most excellent memory and could hold

his own in any ordinary discussion, having absorbed his education through his ears. Mother Harker was able barely to read and to write.

In the first years of Joseph's life the family were members of the Episcopal Church (English Church), but later a new denomination appeared in Durham to which the Harkers became attached. This new sect was called the Primitive Methodist Church. In an extremely religious family, young Joseph early began to learn the Bible, and soon was able to quote many passages of it from his memory. In the later years of their lives, the parents of Joseph united with the Presbyterian Church.

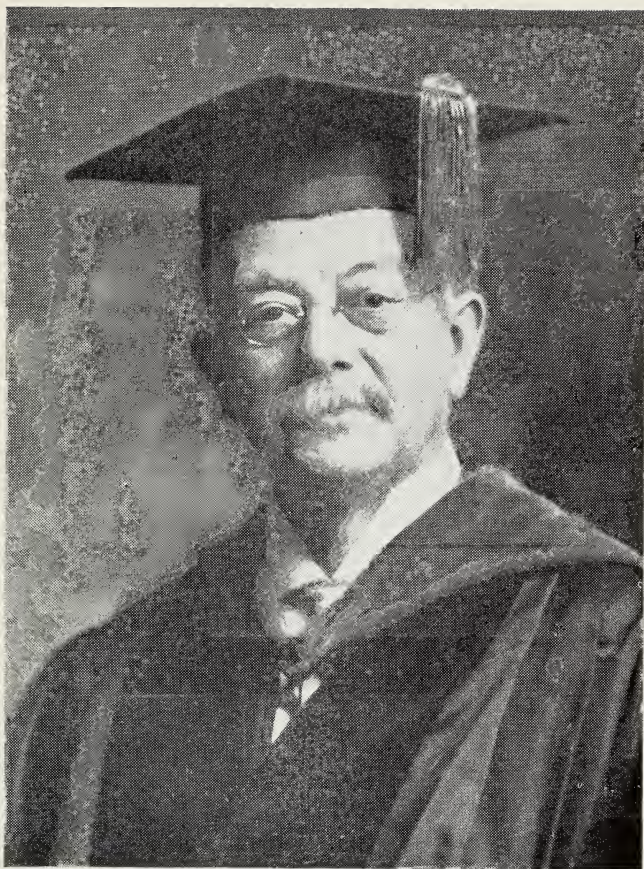
In his school work, Joseph learned the fundamentals: reading, writing, and arithmetic, and some geography, but no history, and practically no grammar. The school was a church school, there being no public schools, as we know them, in England at that time.

The *Illustrated London News* was really a textbook for the boy. The Civil War in America was in progress, and the London publication was featuring sketches and descriptive articles of the battle scenes in America. Studied avidly, this publication extended the vista of the youth's mind, and instilled in him a desire to know more about what made the world tick.

In addition to the *Illustrated London News*, Joseph read *Robinson Crusoe*, *Last of the Mohicans*, *Pilgrim's Progress*, *Arabian Nights*, and The Bible.

Joseph's mother's brother, George Young, and Joseph's brother Thomas, came to America in 1860, to settle in Du Quoin. As a result of the glowing reports in their letters, the Harker family looked with longing eyes upon the Promised Land west of the Atlantic.

At the age of eleven, young Joseph had to quit school to go to work. His first job was in a grocery store, but in a few months he was put to work in the Sacriston



DR. JOSEPH R. HARKER



Joseph
R.
Harker

Milk and Water Row, birthplace
of Joseph R. Harker, near Rain-
ton Gate, England.



Colliery, four miles west of Durham. He started as a pick carrier. A pick carrier took the miner's picks, carried them to the machine shop where they were sharpened, and then carried them back to the various miners.

The narrow veined, hand worked, gassy, poorly lit, unsanitary, dangerous, English coal mines of those days contrast sharply with the modern mines in Southern Illinois. Joseph worked in the mine along with the other miners and their helpers from six in the morning until six at night. His earnings were about half those of his father.

After Joseph had worked in the mine several months a new invention, the telegraph, began to come into limited use. Since Joseph was one of the few employees of the mining company who could write a legible hand, he was selected to receive the necessary training to become a telegraph operator, and then was installed in the mine telegraph office where he sent and received messages for the company from the English ports of Newcastle and Tynemouth.

In those days there were several of the miners who realized that the working conditions were terrible, so a committee of them went to the mine bosses to protest. Ralph Harker was the spokesman. The result—Ralph Harker was blacklisted, and could find no mine employment in that immediate neighborhood. His son Joseph was likewise discharged as telegrapher by the mining company.

In time, Ralph Harker and Joseph found jobs as miners at South Pelaw Colliery, near Chester-le-Street. It was a deep, dangerous mine. After a few months' work the family moved to Etherly Dene, where the male Harkers continued to work in the mines until September, 1871. In that eventful year (eventful for the Harker family and for many in America), Ralph Harker and his wife, Mary, along with their family which included

son Joseph, left in a party of twelve on the journey to a new land. It required about four hundred dollars to bring the family to Illinois, of which amount two hundred dollars was sent from Egypt, Illinois, by Joseph's brother, Thomas.

They traveled as steerage passengers on the steamship. They had to furnish their own straw mattresses, bed coverings, and eating utensils, which they were required to throw overboard upon reaching the port of Boston. There, the Harkers were herded onto an emigrant train, waiting alongside the wharf, headed for Du Quoin, Illinois. It took the train four days to make the trip from Boston to Du Quoin, the last fifteen hours of which were spent traveling from Chicago to Du Quoin. Times were different, train service was different, and prices startling. The total cost for the twelve persons from Durham County, England, to Du Quoin, Illinois, (train fare to Liverpool, steamship steerage passage, and rail fare from Boston to Du Quoin, including berths and food on the boat) amounted to \$51.60 per person. The distance traveled was 4400 miles! Of course, today, we of the United States would not put up with such accommodations. The group was unable to sleep at anytime during the four days' train ride from Boston to Du Quoin. Nevertheless, it was the most glorious ride ever made by the Harker family, that journey to the land of freedom and opportunity. These are not idle words. Joseph R. Harker proved with his later life that

“He had sailed in a ship that was Westward Bound
Across the rolling sea!
To the Blessed Land of Room Enough
Beyond the ocean bars,
Where the air is full of sunshine
And the flag is full of stars!”

* * *

The Harker family arrived in Du Quoin just two days

before the great Chicago fire. Father and son went to work immediately at Number 2 mine at Sunfield, about four miles north of Du Quoin.

We have to let our imaginations furnish us with the thoughts of the Harker family, and especially those of young Joseph, during those first months in Illinois. A boy who never had been outside of Durham County, England, and who never had traveled more than 10 miles on a railroad train, had completed a 4400 mile journey over land and sea to settle in a new country, in a state that had an area of 56,665 square miles in contrast to the total area of England of 50,874 square miles.

In Illinois, Joseph was a free man; he could earn much more by his labor than had been possible in England; and the living and working conditions were so superior to those to which he had been accustomed that Illinois seemed almost like the Promised Land.

It was not long until he had organized a Methodist Sunday School at Sunfield, attended mostly by miners families. Harker acted as superintendent, getting thereby his first experience in public speaking.

In the early summer of 1872, the Harkers had a new experience. The seasonal shutdown of the mines, or rather the curtailment of working days per week, left Joseph with idle time on his hands. A lad who has been born to American ideals may look upon idle time as a vacation, a time in which to play, but a youth who had known only the poverty and sorrow of the working class in England could not bring himself to what seemed to him a waste of time.

The young man's capacity for knowledge was seemingly unlimited. When others twitted him with being a bookworm, he only had to recall, mentally, the bleak, desolated hills of Durham, England, the pasty faces of the half-starved miners' children of that English community, to know the correct answer.

It was only a four-mile walk from Sunfield to Du Quoin, where Joseph inquired the name of the arithmetic text used in the Du Quoin schools. Upon learning it was *Rays' Third Part*, a copy of it and a copy of *Warren's Physical Geography* were purchased by Joseph, and back he walked to Sunfield. During the summer, he studied these books, studied just as religiously and thoroughly as if he were attending school.

Citizens of America, in general, look upon an election year as merely a time in which the populace is bombarded with speeches by the various candidates, each contestant attempting to convince the citizenry that he is the proper person to install in office. We native born Americans do not realize the effect some of our unique institutions have upon our new citizens. Joseph Harker was fascinated by the election campaign of that year. The two candidates for the presidency were Horace Greeley and our own Ulysses S. Grant. The impression made on young Harker's mind was that here were two contestants for the highest office in the land, both of them rising from obscure and poor parents. If these two men could accomplish this measure of success, there must be a chance for him, similarly a son of obscure and poor parents. There must be a chance if he would apply himself.

He did. The family had moved to Du Quoin and the men were working in the Star mine, about one mile south of town. After the mines again became active, Joseph continued his studies at night taking up next, *Ray's First Part Algebra* and *Davies' Legendre Geometry*. Frequently, one of the books was carried to the mine and studied there in Joseph's spare moments.

The young English lad found another great difference in Illinois. In England there always was present the class distinction. Those who existed by the work of their hands could not expect to meet socially those per-

sons who might have a better education, or have more wealth, or social position. Joseph found that in Illinois, the thing that mattered was character. He soon became friendly with many of the doctors, school teachers, and business men of Du Quoin. Three men stand out in his life during those important years of his career. They are John B. Ward, county superintendent of schools and principal of the Du Quoin High School; Professor Granville F. Foster, superintendent of the Du Quoin public schools; and the Reverend William T. Hamilton, a Presbyterian minister.

These men, who were interested in young Harker, encouraged him in his studies, talked with him, explained those which were not understandable, and furnished, above all else, fine examples from which to draw a pattern for himself. Joseph progressed with his studies until he was fighting through Latin and Greek.

In the early winter of 1873, Superintendent Ward suggested to Harker that he should be ready to teach in the schools. The young man had not been in a school since he was ten years old, and never had seen the inside of an American school. Ward advised Harker to visit the Du Quoin schools whenever he had the chance, and shortly thereafter called on him to act as substitute teacher in the grade schools for a day at a time.

In December 1873, Superintendent Ward was having his troubles. The Negro school at Du Quoin was a problem. The superintendent could not find a satisfactory teacher. Again there was a vacancy. He offered the place to Harker. The young man had no certificate to teach, but the superintendent gave him an examination and presented him with a Third Grade Certificate, good for one year, dated: Du Quoin, Perry Co., Illinois, December 13, 1873. It stated: "The undersigned, having examined Joseph Harker in orthography, reading in English, penmanship, arithmetic, English grammar, mo-

dern geography, and U. S. History, and being satisfied that he is of good moral character, certifies that his qualifications in the above branches are such as entitle him to this [provisional] certificate. Valid in District No. 2, Town. 6, Range 1W. of the 3rd P. M. and for the present term only.—[Signed] John B. Ward, Co. Supt. of Schools in Perry Co., Ill.”

That Saturday Joseph took his picks out of the mine. On Monday he entered upon his teaching career.

In an unpainted Negro Baptist Church, on the west side of the Illinois Central tracks about halfway between St. John and Du Quoin, where the main line of the railroad meets the line from St. Louis, Joseph faced, his first day as a teacher, between forty and fifty pupils. They were from six to eighteen years of age, and had lead previous teachers “dog’s lives.” Harker was not a large young man; in fact he was slight and of less than the average height. Sentiment at that time was not very strong in favor of Negro schools. The young man knew immediately that he could not enforce discipline by physical means. Instead, he soon evolved the idea of refusing the obstreperous students admission to the school. The Negro students did not relish being deprived of their new-found rights, hence Harker’s method of discipline worked.

The young Harker was a success at his first teaching job. It is true the financial remuneration was less than he had been making in the mines—thirty dollars per month against one hundred dollars for the same period. It was a step upward on his career, nevertheless. He finished the year without trouble, and gave satisfaction to his superintendent.

Early in Joseph’s life his father had sung to him an old English song. The words and tune became most familiar to him and remained with him, even in Illinois, as a sort of battle song:

"See, saw, sickery, saun,

Which is the way to London Town?

One foot up, and the other foot down—

And that's the way to London Town."

In the later days of his life, Doctor Joseph Harker frequently quoted the old song, explaining that he believed the only way to success was the eternal "one foot up, and the other foot down."

Upon the close of his first school year, Joseph presented himself for further examination for a Second Grade Certificate. This lowest regular certificate was just the lift of "one foot up." On March 7, 1874, having passed his examination successfully, the certificate was granted, good for one year. Inquiry of the county superintendent disclosed that in order to obtain a First Grade Certificate, one must pass a much harder examination in the subjects included in the Second Grade examination, and also a hard test on the natural sciences: botany, zoology, physiology, natural philosophy, and the laws of health.

Back to the mines for what summer work there was. Nights and non-working days filled with intensive study. In July, he passed the examination for a First Grade Certificate, good for two years, from July 8, 1874, in Perry County. He had lifted his feet several times and put them down firmly since he had crossed the ocean to the new land in Illinois.

There was a vacancy in the school at De Soto. Harker made application. Another examination was necessary inasmuch as De Soto was in Jackson County. He passed the examination and obtained a First Grade Certificate good in Jackson County, the day after the formal opening of Southern Illinois Normal University at Carbondale. Doctor Redd, of De Soto, who was the county superintendent, in a short time joined the list of friends that was beginning then to lengthen until, in the follow-

ing years, it reached from coast to coast and extended into each of the forty-eight States. Harker spent two years at De Soto.

Harker's next step was to obtain a State Certificate. This he accomplished as the result of a three-day examination held at Lincoln, Illinois. His certificate, good for life, was dated May 6, 1876, and was signed by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, S. M. Etter.

In religious matters Harker seems to have been extremely broad-minded. Starting as an Episcopalian, he had been a Primitive Methodist, had attended the Presbyterian Church at Du Quoin, and then, at De Soto, held the post of superintendent of the Lutheran Sunday School.

While in De Soto, Harker became friends with Professors Foster, Jerome, and Parkinson, as well as President Allyn, of Southern Illinois Normal University at Carbondale. In 1875, at the request of Doctor Redd, Harker instructed in arithmetic, geography, United States history, and grammar, at the six weeks' Teachers Institute authorized by the General Assembly to improve the educational standards of the State. As a result of his success, he was engaged to instruct at the Perry County Institute held later in the summer.

Little do speakers and writers realize that some sentence or thought offered by them may find a resting place in some mind where it will grow and bloom until it creates something fine and strong. Bayard Taylor spoke on the lecture course of Southern at Carbondale, the first year of Harker's incumbency at De Soto. Harker *walked* the six miles to Carbondale, obtained a seat on the platform (the hall was crowded), and listened to the lecture. Walking the six long miles back to De Soto, late at night, Harker discovered that he could remember nothing but one sentence of the lecture, the beginning. "Ladies and Gentlemen: Contentment with

present attainment is the beginning of decline." That statement was added to the "one foot up, one foot down" in Harker's mental treasure house and greatly influenced his later life.

* * *

Harker began to climb in public school work. Faced with a choice between Beardstown and Watseka, Illinois, he desired the Watseka place, but a telegram failed of delivery until after he had accepted the post at Beardstown. By such little events, seemingly unimportant in themselves, the pattern of our lives is changed. In the home of Professor Foster of Du Quoin, Harker had met in the winter of 1873-1874, Miss Susie Amass of Brighton, Illinois. She was an English woman only recently arrived in this country from Debenham, Suffolk, England. In the summer of 1874, they became engaged and, upon acceptance of the post at Beardstown, they were married, September 6, 1876.

Harker spent one year at Beardstown as principal of the grammar school, then, in succession, four years at Meredosia, and three at Waverly. While at Meredosia, Mrs. Harker died, in April, 1878.

In 1881, Meredosia graduated its first high school class, which consisted of two young women. One of the graduates was Fannie E. Wackerle, who on December 26, 1882, became Mrs. Joseph R. Harker. Fifty years from the date of the first graduating class at Meredosia both members of that class were still living, one of them Mrs. Harker.

At the age of thirty-one, in 1884, Joseph Harker had lifted his foot many times, and put the other one down just as many times. This slow, steady, tenacious march had brought him in that year to Jacksonville, Illinois.

Whipple Academy at Jacksonville was the preparatory school for Illinois College, Jacksonville. Doctor E. A. Tanner, president of Illinois College, had been worried

for several years over Whipple Academy. The college, itself, at that period was suffering from a loss in students, and the academy was beginning to see its last legs. Something had to be done, and done right. Doctor Tanner singled out Joseph R. Harker as the best physician for the school he could find. The one trouble was the remuneration. There was no money with which to pay the principal of the academy. The faculty of the college had taken severe cuts in salary to keep the college going, and could not stand further salary depletions. Doctor Tanner offered the post of principal of Whipple Academy to Joseph Harker, putting up to him at the same time that there was no way to pay him a salary, since the total income of the academy had been \$615 the previous year and was not expected to exceed \$800 in the forthcoming year.

Inquiry on the part of Harker disclosed that the tuition at Whipple was \$18 a year. Harker proposed to the trustees that the tuition be raised to \$36 per year, the school to keep the \$18 it had been accustomed to receive, and Harker to get the other \$18 per student as recompense for his principalship. The trustees were told by Harker that one reason for the slim attendance was that the tuition was so low the public could not believe the school to be really worthwhile; that a doubling of the tuition would increase the student body, rather than curtail it.

Harker never had looked inside a psychology book at that time, but he knew the subject. His proposition accepted, his first year's income amounted to \$1025, the second year's \$1251, and the third year's \$1560.

At the end of the third year, Harker asked to give up the two remaining years of his five-year contract as he was receiving more salary than any member of the faculty of the college, the members of which had sacrificed for years to preserve the institution. It was agreed

that for the two remaining years of his contract he was to receive the same salary as the other members of the faculty, \$1400, plus an allowance of \$100 for traveling expenses during the summer soliciting students for the academy. Fees for addresses to teacher conventions and high schools, added to earnings in the summer from teaching in county institutes, brought Harker's yearly income up to about \$2000, which was a fair income for those days.

Harker was embarrassed during those first years as a member of the faculty of Illinois College, as principal of Whipple Academy, because he was the lone member of that faculty who did not have a college education. There was that item of college degrees. He had none. He had not been graduated from a high school. He had not, oh, perish the thought, even finished grade school. It must be stated that the members of the faculty of Illinois College never embarrassed Harker, but he himself suffered from an inferiority complex occasioned by the lack of a degree or degrees.

Another foot up and another foot down. Night study, help from faculty members, studying, studying. One month from commencement in 1888, Harker was introduced to the senior class as an additional member of that class. He was graduated, receiving the Bachelor of Arts degree, in 1888. By further application, Harker obtained his Master's degree in 1890, and the Doctor of Philosophy degree in 1893. His was the second Doctor of Philosophy degree granted by Illinois College.

It should be recorded that Harker, with his customary lack of secretarianism in religion, had become affiliated with the Methodist Episcopal Church at Jacksonville.

* * *

Harker turned down the presidency of Blackburn College at Carlinville, Illinois, in 1891, and in 1892, the offer of the post of Assistant Head Master at the Bel-

mont School for Boys, at Belmont, California. In the winter of 1892-1893, another offer was received which he did not feel he could refuse. As a result, Joseph R. Harker became president in June, 1893, of the Illinois Female Academy, then under the jurisdiction of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

In that Worlds Fair year of 1893, many of Harker's friends began to doubt his sanity. At that time colleges for women were at the top of the mortality lists. Even the Illinois Methodist Church was ignoring its sickly child, Illinois Female Academy, at Jacksonville, but Harker was taking the presidency. Harker had faith.

Harker was on his way to his success. He owned a home in Jacksonville. He had bought a home for his parents in Du Quoin, while he was teaching at De Soto, which was occupied by them until his mother's death in 1887. At that time Harker sold the house and his father moved to Jacksonville, to live with his son, spending his winters with Joseph's oldest sister, Mrs. Thomas Thompson of Du Quoin. Father Harker died in June, 1909, and was buried alongside of Joseph's mother in the Du Quoin cemetery.

When the former coal miner took over the presidency of this school for girls, the total enrollment was 128, and the value of all the buildings and physical properties was \$75,000. Three decades later, Joseph Harker saw his dream come true, saw the fruition of his major effort. The college then had an enrollment of 540, and the value of its property, equipment, and endowment was \$1,250,000. Thus did the coal miner of Egypt prove that there is no handicap that cannot be overcome.

From 1893 to 1925, thirty-two years, Doctor Joseph R. Harker steered the course of the college. First known as Illinois Female Academy, its name was changed in 1899, to Illinois Woman's College. In recent years it is known all over the world as MacMurray College.

In the course of those thirty-two years the college weathered many storms, most of them financial. There was a period when the president and his wife had to assume the financial responsibility of the college, and virtually operate it as their own private institution, obtaining their remuneration as best they might from the residue after expenses were paid. "Gleanings" again. It was not many years until Doctor Harker had the school on a firm foundation, and had begun to build new buildings and to create an endowment fund.

Ever a man to win friends—he must have been Dale Carnegie's tutor—Harker obtained the interest of Doctor Charles E. Welch, the grape juice king, of Andrew Carnegie, of Julius Strawn, of James MacMurray, and hundreds of others of great and small means scattered throughout the country. It seemed one only had to meet Joseph Harker to want to help him.

Upon the close of the school term in 1925, Joseph R. Harker submitted his resignation as president. Acceding to his earnest request, the trustees accepted it with deep regret, naming him president emeritus. Harker wanted to quit before advanced age would begin to impair his abilities, and while he could expect a few years of life in which to enjoy leisure and his family. In addition to a daughter, Maude, by his first wife, his family consisted of three daughters, Elizabeth, Jenne, and Ruth, and a son, Ralph, by his second wife. Two sons, younger than Ralph, Lewis and Albert, died in their early manhood.

* * *

Those who bewail the passing of the early pioneer days, who claim America no longer is the land of opportunity, must stand ashamed before Joseph R. Harker. To those who contend a poor boy no longer has a chance to rise in our present-day world, Doctor Harker lifts his head and smilingly proves them wrong.

In 1940, at the age of eighty-seven, Doctor Joseph R. Harker died. After retirement he had lived just across the street from the school he largely had been instrumental in building, daily watching the young women of the college as they enjoyed the fruits of his efforts. The Harker home truly was a home. The guest felt comfortable immediately. If it were a first visit, Doctor Harker watched carefully until he saw the eyes light on the fine etching of Durham Cathedral. Then, with the proper encouragement, he would tell some of his life's history, always ending on the glory and promise of America. A deeply religious man, Doctor Harker never took any credit for his success with the college. He claimed he simply carried out the Father's will.

Born in poverty in England, developed in Egypt, Illinois, Joseph R. Harker, once a coal miner, without the benefit of a formal education, became the guiding genius that developed a great institution for the college training of young women.

MacMurray College rates high in its chosen field. Sometimes we wonder if the young ladies who attend the college, as they are taught the finer things of life, realize that the institution that they attend, had its modern genesis, so to speak, in a coal mine of Egypt, and that the graces and learning they are taught are theirs because of a man who earned his first meager living in America by the sweat of his brow and the coal dirt on his hands.

VIII.

Early Colonizer—

Morris Birkbeck

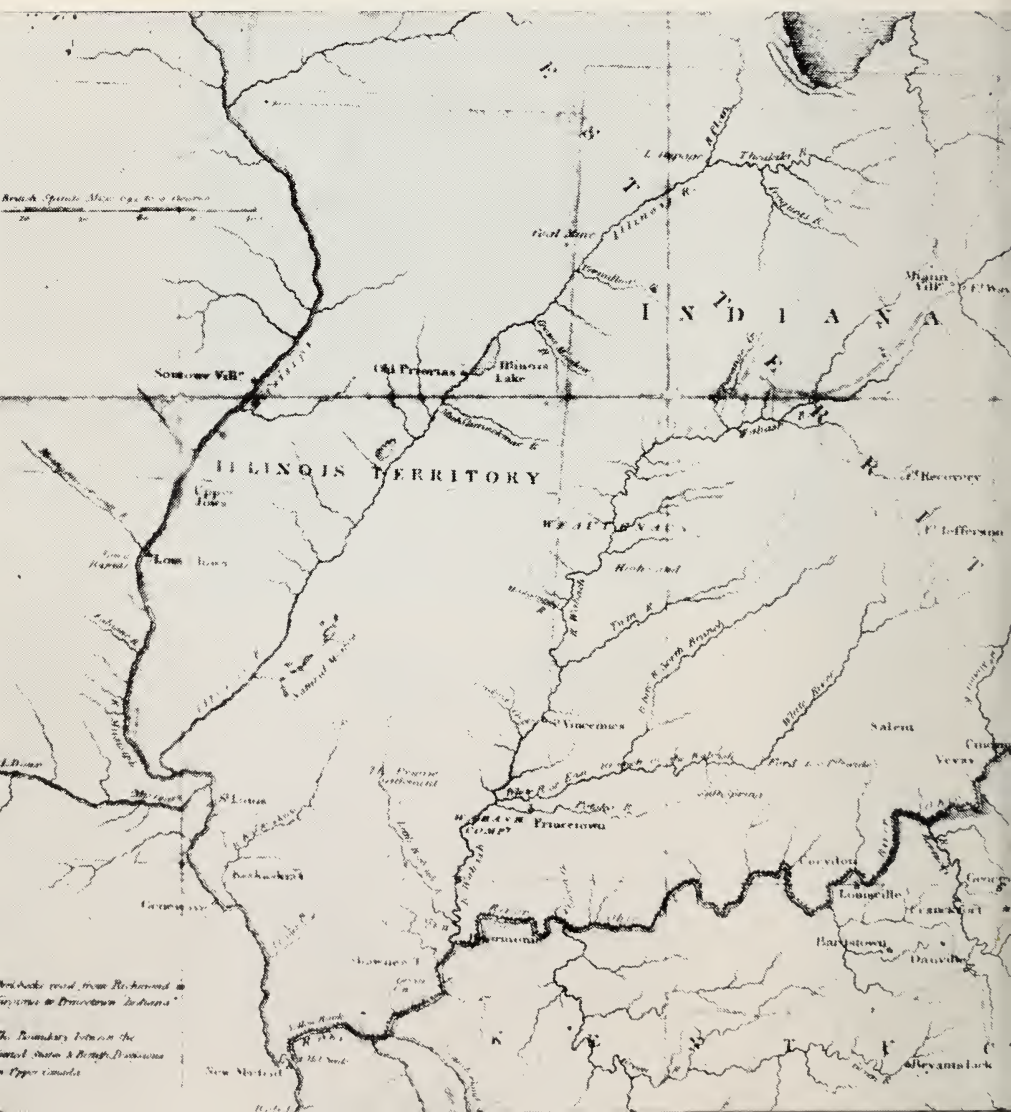
By Richard L. Beyer



Reproduction of sketch of
Morris Birkbeck. (Courtesy
Mrs. Sarah Wheeler, Albion).

Map from Birkbeck's "Notes on a Journey in America to the Territory of Illinois."

PHOTO BY CARL SORGEN, MARION.



IT IS a fact, curious perhaps, but true, that the best remembered figures in the history of the infant State of Illinois are the men who made their reputations in politics: Shadrach Bond, Ninian Edwards, Pierre Menard, Edward Coles, Elias Kent Kane, Jesse B. Thomas. The one major exception is Morris Birkbeck, whose entire political career covered only three months, and who gained his fame as a colonizer, traveler, author, and scientific farmer.

The name of Birkbeck is worthy indeed of being included in a list of the Idols of Egypt, for he was one of the most versatile and cultured men on the Illinois frontier. The fame that he earned came not as the result of a lifetime of activity in this area, but instead it all was compressed within eight years that were filled with significant accomplishments.

Morris Birkbeck loved to travel, and three years before he made the best-known journey of his life into the Illinois Country, this son of a Quaker preacher, crossed from England into France. He and his friend, George Flower, avoided the usual routes taken by Britons when they visited France, and instead, they dipped into the comparatively unknown places. Their trip, in 1814, took them as far south as the Pyrenees and the Mediterranean Sea.

Shortly after the completion of this tour, Birkbeck wrote his *Notes on a Journey Through France*, which had a very wide circulation in Great Britain. It also was read extensively in the United States, and it is known that Thomas Jefferson had a copy of it at Monticello. Thus, its author was something more than a nonentity in 1817, when he came to the United States.

By vocation, Birkbeck was a farmer. The son of Morris and Hannah Bradford Birkbeck, he was born January 23, 1764, in Settle, England, a small shire about fifteen

miles east of Lancaster. He had worked on a farm when he was a youth, and in later life he acquired a long lease on an estate of fifteen hundred acres at Wanborough in Surrey. In this south English farm, he introduced most of the new methods of raising crops and livestock, and was quick to use improved agricultural implements. He was one of the first, and probably *the* first, to raise merino sheep in England. All in all, he was recognized as one of the really progressive farmers in the British Isles.

What caused Morris Birkbeck, apparently a man of high repute, to leave Surrey and to come to the Illinois frontier? Possibly the depression years that followed the Napoleonic wars—years of joblessness, low wages, heavy national debt, and burdensome taxation—were responsible, although a man of Birkbeck's class might not feel all of these effects as much as many others. Possibly the opportunity to invest in the New World, and to make a good profit was a motive. It is known that Englishmen with some surplus capital were looking for American real estate after the Treaty of Ghent had ended the War of 1812, and peaceful relations between the two nations were restored. With the coming of peace, English money was available for investment abroad.

There is no doubt, however, that Birkbeck was dissatisfied with the political and religious conditions that confronted men of his class in England. He was inclined liberally in politics, but since he was not a freeholder he was unable to qualify as a voter for Parliament. The Reform Bills that widened the suffrage were still many years in the future. "Having no elective franchise, an English farmer scarcely can be said to have a political existence, and political duties he has none," complained Birkbeck, who found such a situation plainly intolerable. Moreover, he opposed the teachings of the Anglican

Church, and yet, by compulsory taxation he was obliged to support it.

Birkbeck decided to come to the New World to "exchange the condition of an English farmer for that of an American proprietor," and he hoped to attract those fellow countrymen who would be interested in joining him in establishing a progressive rural colony. The charge hurled at him later that he was trying to establish a swanky, rich man's settlement is without foundation, for Birkbeck plainly announced: "On these estates we hope to live much as we have been accustomed to live in England: but this is not the country for fine gentlemen or fine ladies of any class or description, especially for those who love state, and require abundance of attendants."

It took Birkbeck twelve months to arrange his affairs so that he could leave Surrey, and in that time he sold his property for \$55,000. Finally, on May 13, 1817, he and his children (his wife, Prudence Bush Birkbeck had died thirteen years earlier), arrived at Norfolk, Virginia, and began the American journey that was to become one of the best known in early nineteenth century history.

From Norfolk, the Birkbeck party went by steamboat to Richmond, and there it was joined by Flower, who had come to the United States a year earlier, and who already had visited the Territory of Illinois. Flower, aged twenty-nine, and hence twenty-four years younger than Birkbeck, conducted the travelers on their western trip. They procured two light coaches and a Jersey wagon to get to Fredericksburg, and Birkbeck found the two-day ride, "dear, but very agreeable traveling."

The Englishmen continued on to "The Federal City," Fredericktown, McConnell's Town, and Pittsburgh. At the latter town, estimated by Birkbeck to have seven thousand inhabitants, the party paused for more than

a week to make preparations for a horseback trip into the region that once was the Northwest Territory. Like many other persons, for example, the young Connecticut Yankee, Silas Chesebrough, who visited it a few months later, Birkbeck found Pittsburgh something of a disappointment. The town had not progressed industrially as much as he had been led to believe, and the impolite, improvident, and intemperate Irishmen there, annoyed him.

It was shortly after leaving Pittsburgh that Birkbeck's thinking about his ultimate colony seems to have become clearer. When he first came to America, he was determined to seek a site that would measure up in two respects. First of all, he wanted a healthful area for settlement; one that would have a climate that was "temperate, salubrious and delightful." Secondly, he was determined not to build where slavery was legal. He wrote, "If political liberty be so precious that to obtain it, I can forego the well-earned comforts of an English home, it must not be to degrade myself and corrupt my children by the practice of slave-keeping." Now, to these two decisions, Birkbeck added a third: it was the determination to buy new land at the minimum government price of two dollars an acre, rather than the improved land that speculators were constantly offering him at a higher price.

Probably it was the latter decision that kept Birkbeck and his party pushing on and on into the West until finally they came to the Illinois Country. He observed that most of the "improvements" on the speculators' lands were of little value, and concluded that by hard work and "a few temporary privations," his English colonists could take new land and make it just as valuable, if not more so, than that which was being offered him by the real estate men all along the way.

By early July, the travelers had crossed the State of

Ohio, and on the 13th of that month they arrived at Vincennes, Indiana, and on the 24th at Harmonie, Indiana. The residents of Vincennes were agreeable to Birkbeck, but the town's location was "seemingly unfavorable to health." On July 26, the group crossed the Wabash and there on the "Big Prairie," Birkbeck found the Promised Land. "To our astonishment," he admitted, "we beheld a fertile plain of grass and arable, and some thousand acres covered with corn, more luxuriant than any we had before seen."

Having decided to make their colony in southeastern Illinois, Birkbeck and Flower went to the land office at Shawneetown, and as the former wrote: "I had just constituted myself a land-owner by paying seven hundred and twenty dollars, as one-fourth of the purchase money of fourteen hundred and forty acres; this, with a similar purchase made by Mr. Flower, is part of a beautiful and rich prairie, about six miles distant from the Big, and the same from the Little Wabash. The land is rich natural meadow, bounded by timbered land, within reach of two navigable rivers, and may be rendered immediately productive at a small expence."

While at the site of the land office, Birkbeck looked over Shawneetown, and although originally he was not disposed too well toward this community, his opinions of it improved before he left. On August 3, he wrote, "We left Shawnee Town this morning, under more agreeable impressions regarding its inhabitants than we had entertained. . . ." He mentioned the presence of a certain amount of "river barbarism," but added that he had met more "agreeable individuals" than had been expected. Furthermore, the tavern at which the travelers stopped afforded them kind and hospitable treatment. Birkbeck confessed amazement, though, at the determination of the residents of Shawneetown to cling to their location, despite the frequent floods of the Ohio River.

"Once a year," he noted, "the inhabitants either make their escape to higher lands, or take refuge in their upper stories, until the waters subside, when they recover their position on this desolate sandbank."

Following the selection of the scene for his colony, Birkbeck went back to Princeton, Indiana, and continued the travel chronicle that he had started to write in late April when he was still at sea—five hundred miles east of Cape Henry, Virginia. The book that resulted bore the title, *Notes on a Journey in America to the Territory of Illinois*. It was a work that attained an immediate popularity. It was published in Philadelphia, London, Dublin, and Cork. Seven editions in the English language were printed, and within a year it was translated into the French and the German. When one assesses the fame that is Birkbeck's, no little of it will be found to rest on the authorship of the *Notes*.

The book is the work of an educated man and a skillful writer. Mention might have been made even earlier of Birkbeck's ability to handle languages. He mastered the English language at an early age, and it is possible that his appointment, when he was a boy, as secretary to a Quaker organization gave him some training. His work as a clerk for the Friends also taught him to be orderly in the arrangement of written material, and the *Notes* is a well organized work. Doubtless Birkbeck's knowledge of Latin, Greek, and French also contributed to his literary gifts.

As one studies the *Notes*, he concludes that it has a three-fold significance. First, this definitely is a piece of advertising for the "English Prairie," as the settlement sometimes was to be called, and Birkbeck's description of his property was influential in bringing people from abroad to Edwards County. Then, the book proved to be a valuable guide for Americans who were going from the east to the west, either as settlers or tourists.

As is well known, the years immediately following the close of the War with England in 1814, brought one of the greatest migrations in all American history to the frontier. These travelers were avid for information about the New West. How did one travel? What equipment should one take along? How much did the trip cost? Where should one go? A thousand questions could be raised, and in an effort to answer them, a veritable flood of books on the frontier appeared. Some of them, such as Samuel R. Brown's *The Western Gazetteer or Emigrants' Directory*, were factual and informative, some of them were amateurish, but nearly all were popular, and they sold.

Birkbeck's *Notes* ranked high among the western travel literature of the period, and was packed with information. He was precise about routes, about distances, about costs of transportation, lodging, and food. It is interesting, perhaps, to note that two of the most factual reporters of the frontier in the early part of the nineteenth century were not Americans, but Britons. Like John Melish of Glasgow, who made the western journey a few years before, Birkbeck recorded weather conditions, and even the temperatures of the air and water. Birkbeck was curious; although he had a few pronounced dislikes, he was interested in nearly everything he encountered, and he reported it in his book. For example, he was appalled by the magnitude of an American breakfast, and after gorging one on the frontier, he wrote:

"An American breakfast is much in the same style on the eastern coast of Virginia, and in the centre of the Ohio state: a multifarious collection of discordant dishes fatiguing to the mistress of the house in its preparation, and occasioning much unpleasant delay to the traveler.

"A gentleman, myself, and three children sat down this morning [at Rushville, Ohio] to a repast consisting

of the following articles: coffee, rolls, biscuits, dry toast, waffles (a soft hot cake, of German extraction, covered with butter), pickerell salted (a fish from Lake Huron), veal cutlets, broiled ham, gooseberry pie, stewed currants, preserved cranberries, butter and cheese: for all this, for myself, and three children, and four gallons of oats, and hay for four horses, we were charged six shillings and nine pence sterling."

Thirdly, Birkbeck's *Notes* is regarded as one of the fine pieces of source material for the history of the American frontier. The author is quoted widely, and just about every person who has written about, or has taught the subject of, the great westward movement after the War of 1812 has used Birkbeck's observation: "We have now fairly turned our backs on the old world, and find ourselves in the very stream of emigration. Old America seems to be breaking up, and moving westward. We are seldom out of sight, as we travel on this grand trek, towards the Ohio, of family groups, behind and before us, some with a view to a particular spot, close to a brother perhaps, or a friend who has gone before, and reported well of the country."

In 1818, the year of Illinois' statehood, the colonization of Edwards County by Birkbeck and Flower became a reality, and the communities of Wanborough and Albion were established. By the next year, it was estimated that seven hundred Americans and four hundred Englishmen were in the settlements. It was necessary to rely on the Rappites at nearby Harmonie for food for a while, but soon the large farms were productive, and the English Prairie gained a good reputation for its fine cattle, sheep, and hogs. In time the settlement of Wanborough disintegrated, while that of Albion prospered.

Inasmuch as Birkbeck long had been interested in scientific farming, it was fitting that he should be named the president of the first agricultural society in Illinois.

The society was organized in the fall of 1819, and Edward Coles, along with Birkbeck, was influential in the formation thereof. Coles, by the way, was vice-president at the time that Birkbeck headed the society. It operated until 1825, and not only offered premiums for the raising of grains and livestock, but also encouraged the production of flax, hemp, cotton, tobacco, castor oil, wool, homespun cloth, malt liquor, salt, and cheese. Birkbeck urged the members to stress grazing and dairying. He warned them against misuse of the soil. And concerned, as always, about the healthfulness of a community, he recommended the draining of stagnant waters to help prevent the spread of disease. Birkbeck proved that a living could be made on the prairies. What a difference there would have been in the history of our country if this fact had not been proven so early in the life of Illinois.

Despite its fine leadership, troubles soon beset the English Prairie. There was some friction between the English and the Americans, and Doctor Daniel Berry, in his study of Birkbeck, attributed it to the surviving animosities of the War of 1812. After all, the settlement was made just a few years after the Battle of New Orleans, and some of the American veterans of that engagement were in the area. Birkbeck did his best to be conciliatory, and succeeded in smoothing out some of the ill feeling.

Birkbeck soon found himself involved in another controversy. It grew out of his publicizing the settlement in his *Letters from Illinois*, which favorably advertised the Prairie. This book attracted much attention and stimulated English migration to the United States. William Cobbett, British politician, was in America at the time, and he visited the settlement. Then he issued a blast to the effect that Birkbeck's statements as to the healthfulness and fertility of the Illinois Country, were

exaggerated. The resulting controversy was acrimonious, and it showed that Cobbett deserved the nickname, "Porcupine," which had been given him because of his sharp pen. Birkbeck defended his colony, and accused Cobbett not only of being ignorant, but of having an alliance with eastern land speculators "who wish to see Illinois in ruin and utterly discarded." The quarrel did attract a great deal of attention to the settlement, and impartial observers found, that although Birkbeck lacked no talents as an advertising man, yet Cobbett's criticisms were far too severe.

Success of the colony was jeopardized as the result of a quarrel between Birkbeck and Flower. The circumstances of the dispute are not entirely clear. At any rate, after Flower had returned from England where he had published Birkbeck's account of the Illinois Country, he found that the latter would have nothing to do with him. Business between the two henceforth was conducted through an intermediary, but there is some evidence that Birkbeck was trying to patch up the disagreement just before his death.

Birkbeck's political career was brief, and consisted of a three-month occupancy of the secretaryship of state of Illinois. The appointment was made by Governor Coles, who apparently first became acquainted with Birkbeck in England years earlier. Birkbeck took the secretaryship on October 15, 1824, and retired exactly three months later when the Illinois Senate refused to confirm the appointment. In the short time that he held the position Birkbeck served efficiently, but his long-standing and outspoken opposition to slavery made him unacceptable to the pro-slavery element in the legislature.

Of middle stature, spare, wiry, muscular, with face bronzed from exposure, Birkbeck was a fighting Crusader. Characterized by Governor John Reynolds as

the first literary man to settle in Illinois, Birkbeck threw all his writing talent into the fight against slavery. His writings, under the pen name of Jonathan Freeman, in the *Illinois Gazette*, converted many outside Edwards County to his way of thinking. Without the modern tools of daily newspapers, magazines, and radio, Birkbeck, through his widely distributed pamphlet, must be credited with a major share in saving Illinois from the evil of slavery.

In the late spring of 1825, Birkbeck and his son visited Robert Owen at New Harmony, formerly Harmonie. On the return trip they attempted to cross the Fox River, a bayou of the Wabash River, swollen by heavy rains. The current swept horses and riders into deep water. Birkbeck was drowned, while his son barely escaped the same fate. Birkbeck's death on June 4, 1825, at the age of sixty-one, removed from the Illinois scene one of the most talented men that the State then knew; a State whose history is all the richer because of his decision to plant therein his English Prairie.

IX.

Pioneer Team—

James and Sarah Lusk

By Josephine Crist Thompson

THE thoughts and hopes of many former soldiers of the Revolution, during the first administration of President George Washington, were turned to the vast territories in the Mississippi valley. Not only were the Revolutionary veterans interested in moving westward from the seaboard, but quite a few Europeans, especially French, were intrigued by the thoughts of the rich, productive land of the great river basin. One of these men, René Levillian, Jr., traveled over much of the territory near the confluence of the Mississippi and the Ohio rivers in the years following the end of the Revolution, and before the establishment of the Northwest Territory.

Levillian was a hunter and a scout, and gauged the land well. He determined to return to France and, about 1795, started his homeward journey. His route took him through the Waxhaw settlement in the State of South Carolina, where he lingered a short while. Talking to the Waxhaw settlers, he described with vivid minuteness the wonders of the land over which he had traveled west of the Kentucky settlements. His hosts in the Waxhaws were eager listeners for the impelling reason that they were anxious to migrate to the new frontiers.

One of Levillian's hosts was Major James Lusk, whose father had come to America from the north of Ireland in 1721. The Major was born in 1751.

In the Revolutionary War, James Lusk fought valiantly in the border warfare in South Carolina. He was commissioned major at the Battle of Cowpens. At the Battle of Waxhaw, in 1780, where four hundred colonials were massacred after surrendering to Tarleton, the gallant Major with a company of dragoons forded a creek at full stream, and escaped to the bogs of a pine woods. He organized then a small band to engage in a system

of "partisan warfare," and participated in the rout of the enemy at William's Plantation. In this latter engagement, his company co-operated with Colonel Sumter. At the Battle of Camden, the Major's guerillas witnessed the death of Baron De Kalb, and Major Lusk was made the bearer of the Baron's last letter.

The land, described by Levillian to Major Lusk and the others at Waxhaw, promised no unknown terrors, although it was overrun by Indians. The particular territory that attracted the Major was that land west of the Ohio River lying between the confluence of the Ohio and the Mississippi rivers, and the place where the Wabash emptied into the Ohio River. There were occasional bands of Shawnees inhabiting the area, and, not too infrequently, other tribes, even including the Pottawatomies from much farther north, ranged throughout the district. The region did not become completely safe until after the Indians were conquered by "Mad Anthony" Wayne, and later totally subjugated by General Harrison's victory over Tecumseh at Tippecanoe in 1811.

Major Lusk had married Letitia Thomas on May 16, 1782. Their children were John Thomas who married Lucretia Gilliam, Esther, Robert, and Letitia who married a Youngblood. Letitia Thomas Lusk was murdered by a slave on February 28, 1793. Major Lusk disposed of all his slaves at once, and never again purchased or owned one. From that day on, he was a bitter opponent of the institution of slavery.

On July 25, 1793, Major Lusk and Sarah McElwaine were married in South Carolina. Sarah was the daughter of General James McElwaine of that State. Three children were born prior to their migration to their western frontier home. These were Lucretia, Sarah Lucinda, and Hannah Louise, who married James Alcorn, and whose son was James Lusk Alcorn.

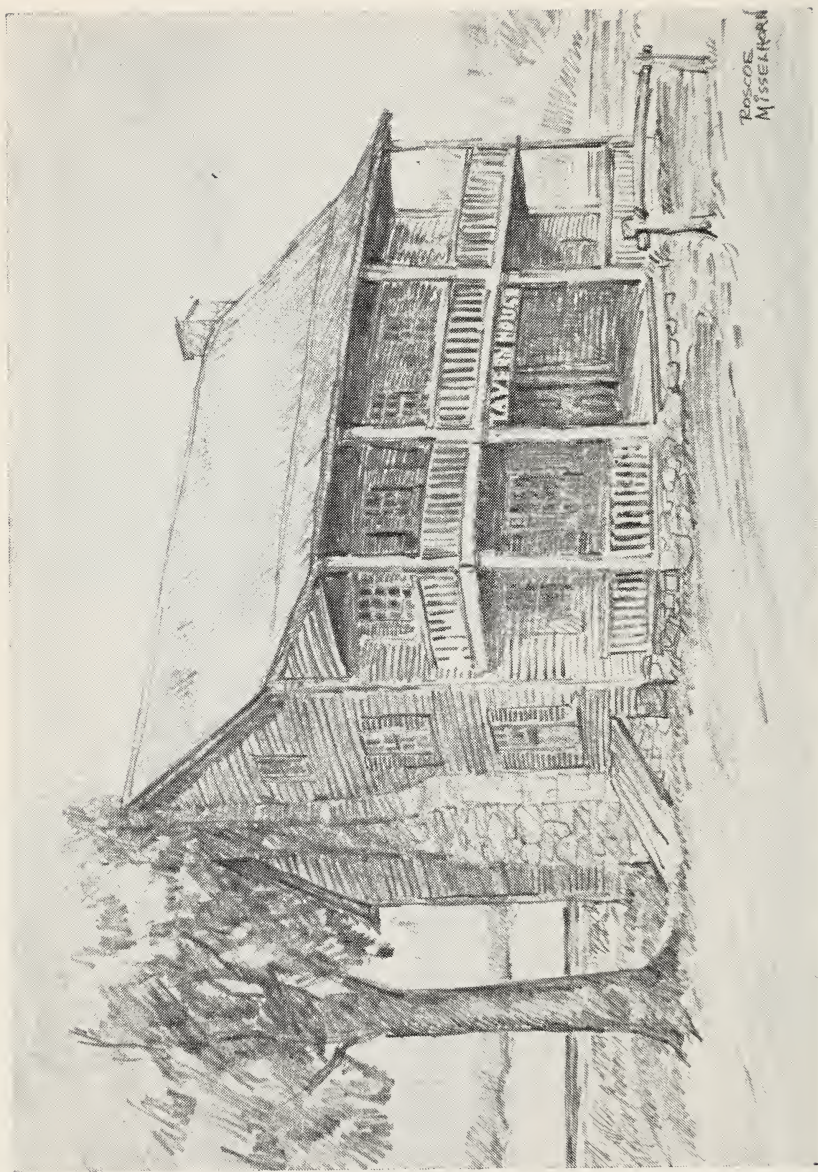
James Lusk Alcorn, who was born near Golconda, had



Mouth of Lusk Creek. Group of trees is "North Bank."

Ferry landing, Golconda, after sea wall was built. Water tower is at the approximate site of Tavern House.





Artist Roscoe Misselhorn's conception of Tavern House from descriptions available.

a distinguished career in the State of Mississippi. He was elected governor on the Republican ticket in 1869, but resigned to become United States senator from Mississippi in 1871. He was defeated for governor, as an independent candidate, in 1873.

Following the glowing descriptions given the Waxhaw group by Levillian, plans were made for a party to start a westward trek to the new land of promise. The original group consisted of Major James Lusk and his wife, Sarah, and their children, seven in all (four by the former marriage, and three born of the marriage of James and Sarah); the Major's brother, Vance Lusk; Anorita Ferguson and her children, James Richard, Thomas, Hamlet, and two daughters, all of whom were adults except the girls; Robert Lacy, his wife and two children; Benoni Lee with his wife and two children; Shadrach Waters, his wife and one child, a son; Howell Arlington; Hector Pittulo; two orphans, Leander and Narcissus; two Negroes, and two "crackers."

The group began its journey in April 1796, and arrived finally, without mishap, at the village of Salem, then the seat of Livingston County, Kentucky. The travelers tarried at Salem for a short while before making the last lap of their journey to the Ohio River. They made a stop at Mark's Hill, Kentucky, opposite the site of the present town of Golconda, on the Illinois side of the river. Mark's Hill was near Cave Springs, Kentucky, and some eighteen miles above the spot where the Kaskaskia Trail met the Ohio River. The immigrant group of South Carolinians arrived at the site May 4, 1796.

There were no other settlements in the area. It was several years later that a settlement was founded at Shawneetown, a site which, in 1796, was occupied by the Shawnee Indians.

Major Lusk purchased, from a Virginian by the name of Pollard, the land on the Kentucky side of the Ohio,

directly across from what is now Golconda. Having purchased the land to the river's edge, he was entitled to operate a ferry, and, in 1797, secured a license from the State of Kentucky. He assumed the right to have exclusive possession of the site for the purpose of operating a ferry, and met no serious opposition.

Unfortunately, there are no pictures available of either Sarah Lusk or Major James Lusk. Notes made contemporaneously indicate that Sarah was quite a beauty, and had been the belle of York, near the Waxhaw settlement in South Carolina. Presumably she was a brunette, with dark hair, soft brown eyes, and an olive complexion. She had a graceful carriage and was sprightly in her movements. Born in 1766, she was thirty years of age at the time the Lusks left South Carolina for the West. The events of her later years proved her to be inclined to good business judgment, and she was possessed, to a considerable degree, of culture and refinement. It was at Sarah's behest that the Lusks brought with them to their Ohio River home many of the comforts of more civilized communities, among them a harpsichord. It is recorded that Sarah was an accomplished musician.

A great-granddaughter of James and Sarah Lusk has written that the Lusks generally were fair, but a few were dark. Their faces were rather square with low brows. James and Sarah's daughter, Hannah Louise, was supposed to be typical of the family. She was very beautiful, had high cheek bones, an ivory skin, and a high color. Her mouth was quite large and her nose somewhat short.

The same authority reports that the Lusks were noted for being the most peculiar persons in the world. They were supposed to have followed their own whims regardless of anyone else, and, if you were willful, contrary, high-tempered, and vindictive, the family saying was applied, "That is the Lusk in you." They were

known also to be fearless and loyal, and to hold high moral principles with fanatical zeal. They did as they pleased, regardless of the opinions of others.

Major Lusk was disappointed bitterly with the terms and conditions of the admission of Kentucky to statehood because slavery was permitted. Unalterably opposed to slavery, he had used all his influence to exclude the evil from Kentucky. In his disappointment, he decided to move from Kentucky, and, accordingly, wrote to Governor William Henry Harrison, then governor of the Territory of Indiana, with the view of procuring a license to operate his ferry from the "North Bank." (Lusk undoubtedly meant the north bank of the creek, later known as Lusk's Creek, on the Illinois side, and almost directly opposite Lusk's home on the Kentucky side.)

At the time, Governor Harrison was having much difficulty with the Indians in the area, so he advised Major Lusk that nothing should be attempted until the Delaware Indians left the neighborhood, stating that he was at the moment negotiating a treaty with them for the cession of the Illinois Ozarks that extended to the Ohio at, and north of the Illinois site which was the subject of Lusk's letter.

The Major was in no mood to await the conclusion of negotiations which might or might not be successful, so decided to act without further ado. Therefore, he moved immediately across to the Illinois side, to the site that now is the town of Golconda, and, without a license, operated his ferry boat from that point.

With material from keel boats, he built a commodious two-story frame house, which stood on a high spot at the intersection of the creek and the Ohio River. Completed in 1798, it was known, sometimes, as the Ferry House and, more often, the Tavern House. It was from this point on the north bank of the creek that Lusk

planned to operate his ferry. The creek became known as Lusk's Creek, and is still known by that designation. The site of Tavern House was one hundred yards east of the town lots which, later, were platted for the settlement first known as Sarahsville, in honor of his wife. Later, the name of the town was changed to Golconda.

Upon completion of the building in 1798, the Lusk family moved into it with all their household goods, live stock, and other possessions. Thus, they became the first settlers between Kentucky and Kaskaskia in the Illinois area. The land around their new home was fertile and responsive, and good living was no hardship after the land was cleared and placed in cultivation.

Because of the ferry, the route became a main traveled one for the day and time. Sarah and James were charming and hospitable hosts to many notables who chanced to pass their way. Lorenzo Dow, the evangelist, Thomas H. Benton, the statesman, and John James Audubon, the naturalist, in his wanderings down the Ohio River, were entertained at Tavern House. Governor Harrison of the Indiana Territory, later to become President of the United States was, on occasion, a guest. It is stated that Nicholas Roosevelt, grandfather of President Theodore Roosevelt, and the first steamboat man on western waters, also was a guest at Tavern House.

The house stood at the original site for more than thirty years, but after several removals because of a dissolving river bank, it surrendered finally to the unfriendly Ohio, and the dilapidated old Tavern House was allowed to tumble into the river. It survived the death of Major Lusk by thirty years, but in 1833, disappeared.

In order to facilitate patronage for his ferry, Major Lusk chopped out a road from the State of Tennessee direct to the ferry. On the Illinois side, there was no road west except an old Indian trail, so in August 1803, Major Lusk undertook to construct a six-foot highway

from Lusk's Ferry to David Green's Ferry across the Mississippi River.

Major Lusk was in command of the construction party, assisted by some twenty men. Shadrach Waters was second in charge of the party which included Vance Lusk, Hector Pittulo, and Benoni Lee of the original South Carolina group, as well as Jim Alcorn, Temple Perkins, and others who later had joined the settlement.

On the return journey, after completing the road to the Mississippi, Major Lusk fell ill of the ague, and took to his bed upon his return home. He did not recover, and died on September 27, 1803. He was buried across the river at Carrsville, Kentucky, beside his mother and brother, Robert Lusk. Major James Lusk, rightfully, can be honored as the first road builder of Illinois.

Sarah Lusk was a person of strong character possessed of great will power and determination. While Major Lusk was away from Sarahsville opening the road to the Mississippi River, a man named Clement, an agent of Pollard, the Virginian from whom the Major had purchased the land on the Kentucky side of the Ohio River, visited Tavern House for the purpose of collecting on the purchase price. He had informed Pollard, his principal, that Major Lusk was "on a wild goose chase," and was spending money "right and left" that should have been paid to Pollard. When Sarah learned of the statements and actions of Clement, she promptly and emphatically ordered him away from the home, and Clement did not choose to argue or to debate the matter.

By force of circumstances, Sarah was thrust into a life of business, and immediately was required to assume family leadership. The ferry business had increased greatly because of the opening of the road from Tennessee, and the construction of the road to the Mississippi River. A store had been opened in connection with Tavern House where supplies and merchan-

dise were sold to the traveling public. The details of straightening out the business operations of her deceased husband required immediate attention, and not the least of these was the matter of winding up the transaction for the purchase from Pollard of the Kentucky land.

Finally, all the bills incurred by the construction of the Illinois road were paid, and Sarah and her advisers felt that she would be in a better vantage point in dealing with Pollard if she returned to Kentucky. Accordingly, Sarah and the family moved back to the Kentucky side of the river, and Pitullo, together with Robert Lacy and his mother, were commissioned by Sarah to operate, and to look after Tavern House. Sometime later, after the Pollard matter was settled, the Lusk family moved back to Illinois.

The death of Major Lusk left Sarah and the children with many problems to face in their frontier home. Settlements were few and far between. Indians yet roamed throughout all the surrounding area and most of them were hostile. Sarah, with her indomitable will and courage, was determined to continue to operate the ferry in the same manner as had the Major in his lifetime. Except for the responsibility of management, this presented no new difficulties to Sarah, inasmuch as she had supervised the details while the Major was away from home attempting to further the facility of travel on both sides of the Ohio River by constructing roads to and from the ferry.

General McElwaine had given to Sarah a young Negro slave girl named Cassie, and even though Major Lusk was bitterly opposed to slaves, Cassie had remained with her mistress throughout the married years of Sarah and the Major. Cassie has been described in a letter now in the possession of one of Sarah's descendants as being "very tiny," but Sarah, with the help of Cassie

and John Thomas Lusk, one of her stepsons, continued to operate the ferry.

It was no easy matter to operate a ferry in the wilderness, and Sarah met many difficult situations with remarkable fortitude, independence, and courage. A granddaughter of Governor James Lusk Alcorn of Mississippi wrote:

"I have heard my Father many times relate the incident pertaining to his grandmother Lusk and her ferry triumph. I believe the man Dement [undoubtedly Clement, the agent of Pollard] across the river upon one occasion contested and prohibited the landing of a certain traveler, who turned out to be William Henry Harrison, and with her shotgun and faithful woman slave, Cassie, as allies, my great grandmother risked a collision and crossed the river, effecting a safe landing and return. The old negress, 'Cass,' came to Mississippi and was my grandmother's cook and servant until her death in 1858. She did no work, but was kept in comfort by my Mother and was waited on by other servants, to whom she often recounted the many acts of heroism displayed at Sarahsville, in which she described herself in the most approved Munchausen expression."

In another letter, this same descendant described Cassie as being "very tiny," and "as old as the hills, with a perfect memory."

Whether or not Governor Harrison learned of the difficulties Sarah was having in the operation of her ferry, before his personal visit previously mentioned, he issued her a license on May 7, 1804, and instructed her as to her rights. The Executive Register of Indiana Territory is reproduced in Volume 3, Number 3 of the publication of the Indiana Historical Society. Under date of May 7, 1804, on page 123, is the record of the license issued to Sarah Lusk. The license was recorded years later, in the office of the Recorder of Pope County,

Illinois, at Golconda, on page 82, Record Book "A," and reads as follows:

Indiana Territory
William Henry Harrison, Esqr.
Governor and Commander in Chief
of the Indiana Territory

License is hereby granted to Sarah Lusk to keep a ferry across the Ohio River in Randolph County [the present Pope County then was a part of Randolph County], opposite the one formerly kept by James Lusk. She, the said Sarah Lusk, engaging to keep at the said ferry good and sufficient boats for the passage of travelers, with their horses, carts, wagons, carriages, cattle, & C., & C., and for which she is to receive such Toll as may be established for said ferry by the Court of Quarter Sessions for said County. And the said Sarah Lusk is also to enter into Bond as the law directs for the proper keeping of said ferry.

Given under my hand at St. Vincennes the Seventh day of May, Anno Domini one thousand eight hundred and four, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the twenty-eighth.

WILLIAM HENRY HARRISON

SEAL

by the Governor:

Jno. Gibson, Secretary

Following the death of Major Lusk, Sarah remained a widow for more than eighteen months. However, as was usual in the frontier settlements, the thought was to keep established homes and families, and on April 2, 1805, Sarah was married to Thomas Ferguson at Salem, Kentucky.

Thomas Ferguson was a member of the original party that set out from the Waxhaw settlement in South Carolina, and his fortunes had followed those of the Lusks

in the years that elapsed after the migration. He was reported to have been a suitor for the hand of Sarah McElwaine before she married James Lusk, and at least it appears that Ferguson was very devoted to Sarah following their marriage.

Thomas Ferguson later became a member of the Legislative Council of the First Territorial Legislature from 1812 to 1814, and also in the Second Territorial Legislature from 1814 to 1816. After the creation of Pope County on January 10, 1816, he was, together with Robert Lacy and Benoni Lee, on April 1, 1816, commissioned as Judge of the County Court under the county commission form of government. This form of government was authorized by the Illinois Constitution of 1818.

During the first few years after the erection of Tavern House, many log houses were constructed south of the intersection of the creek and the river, and immediately adjacent to the river front. As time passed and the traffic on the river, as well as across the river, increased, the town site was enlarged and the population increased. The first crude homes were built on the Ohio River front.

As the new settlement at the site of the ferry expanded and developed, Sarah increased her business responsibilities and importance. She opened a store for the sale and distribution of goods, wares, and merchandise, mainly for the traveling public, and she also was commissioned as the first Postmistress of Sarahsville. By this time, Sarahsville was the largest settlement between the Kentucky settlements and the Mississippi River.

On the fourth Monday of May, 1816, the following report of Commissioners was recorded: "We the Commissioners appointed by the Legislature of Ill. Territory to examine and lay off the place where the permanent site of justice for said county shall be fixed, having

met according to the act of Assembly, on the first day of April, 1816, and being first duly sworn, have agreed, that the most eligible and convenient place is in the lane of Thos. Ferguson, and now designated by stakes at nineteen poles square from each other, the lane being on the south boundary of said square.

Signed: Jas. N. Fox
Jas. Titsworth
Benoni Lee
John Reed

N. B. The name of this town is called Sarahsville."

The plat of the town of Sarahsville was ordered recorded August 28, 1816.

Unlike Major Lusk, Thomas Ferguson was a large slave owner, and was a firm believer in the institution of slavery.

Thomas Ferguson apparently was a man of force and will because reports of Sarah are sparse indeed following their marriage. Almost everything that remains to be told of their activities consists in accounts of the doings of Thomas Ferguson.

Soon after the marriage, Ferguson discovered that Sarah did not have clear title to the land upon which her home in Sarahsville was built. The one hundred acres in the premises had been taken up by Robert Kidd, a Revolutionary soldier. Later, Kidd sold the land to Robert Morrison of Kaskaskia. On September 16, 1805, Ferguson purchased the land from Morrison in order to clear the title for Sarah.

Ferguson evidently took over the operation of the ferry, and years later, in 1820, we find it recorded that Thomas Ferguson was granted permission to keep a ferry across the Ohio River and the mouth of Lusk Creek.

Major James Lusk and Sarah were staunch and devout Presbyterians. They had been anxious to establish a

church in their community, but were never able to accomplish this during the lifetime of Major Lusk. On October 23, 1819, Sarah and fifteen others organized the Presbyterian Church at Golconda. This church is the oldest Presbyterian Church in Illinois, and a great many of the descendants of the original organizers are numbered in the membership of the present congregation. Church records show that Sarah Ferguson presented for infant baptism, her two children, James Thomas Ferguson and Emiline Ferguson on October 23, 1819, the date of the organization of the church.

Church records also show that Hannah Louise Lusk Alcorn was baptized on June 5, 1820, and that she transferred her membership to her new home in the State of Mississippi in 1844.

The records show that Thomas Ferguson on December 2, 1816, sold all his properties including the ferry, which presumably had been the property of Sarah, to Green B. Field for three notes of \$3,000 each. There was considerable litigation in following years arising from this sale between Ferguson and Field, and it was not until after the death of Green B. Field that the matter finally was settled. In 1822, Daniel Field, first cousin of Green B. Field, bought the property, including the ferry, at a court sale, and he was granted a franchise to operate the ferry from that time. The ferry has remained the property of the descendants of Daniel Field from 1822 to the present, and today is owned by a cousin of the writer. The ferry still is operated over the same course as when established by Major Lusk after he moved to the Illinois side of the Ohio River.

Sarah McElwaine Lusk Ferguson died in 1830, at the age of sixty-one. She left behind her a second husband who squabbled over her slaves and her property. Her descendants have attempted to find her grave without success. It is not known definitely where she was living

when she passed away. One report is that she was living with one of her children, which would account for her burial in a place other than Golconda. If she is buried in Kentucky, her grave is not marked and diligent search has not found it.

For many, many years little note was paid to the heavy contribution Sarah Lusk made to the development of the Northwest Territory. She was the first woman to operate a ferry in the State of Illinois. By such pioneers as Major and Sarah Lusk, the foundations were laid in Egypt for the great State of Illinois.

X.

Egyptian Bird Lover—

Robert Ridgway

By Katharine Quick Griffith

A YOUNG Egyptian assisted in the development of the first airplane capable of flight.

The builder of the plane, Professor Samuel P. Langley, secretary of the Smithsonian Institution in 1887, frequently called on Robert Ridgway, then curator of birds at the Smithsonian, to help solve problems of design and construction. Because Ridgway at an early age was known for exactness in his work, his data on the shape and construction of wings of soaring birds, and his detailed sketches and computations on the shape and area of each bird in relation to its weight, were of inestimable value to the airplane inventor. The California condor, the turkey vulture, the wandering albatross, and the frigate bird were the principal ones that were the subject of this particular study.

It was another phase of his work that brought Ridgway world-wide recognition. That work, although of a commercial nature, was the outgrowth of his work with birds. For the past thirty years, his painstaking compilation of an authoritative book on colors has been used as a guide by florists, manufacturers of ribbons, dress goods, wall paper, paints, and all others using colors.

This Egyptian was born at Mount Carmel, Illinois, July 2, 1850, the son of a druggist. His parents came of English stock. His father, David Ridgway, was born at Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, March 11, 1819, the grandson of a member of William Penn's colony of Quakers. Mansfield, Ohio, was the family home until about 1840, when the Ridgways moved to a farm, near Mount Carmel, Illinois. Robert's mother, Henrietta James Reed, was born in 1833 at Mansfield, Ohio, and came as a child of five to Calhoun Prairie, Wabash County, Illinois.

Had Robert's father not experienced a series of business reverses, Mount Carmel still might claim the great

scientist. A fire that wrecked David Ridgway's pharmacy, and a tornado that demolished the building, plus his too kindly and generous credit extension, caused him, in 1877, to decide to try farming. He moved his wife and nine children to the vicinity of Wheatland, Indiana. Robert, the eldest, did not go to Indiana with the family. He had gone to seek his fame ten years before, in 1867.

Robert always was an outdoor boy. He loved to roam the fields and to hunt birds. He practiced truancy often when the spark of interest in nature prompted him to disregard pedagogic authority and discipline. Inasmuch as he had no way of identifying any unusual specimens he might obtain, and since he knew nothing of taxidermy, it was necessary that he make colored sketches of them so that at the first opportunity he could get them identified.

The first gun owned by Robert was a rifle salvaged from the cargo of a sunken steamboat in the Wabash River at Mount Carmel. The rifle was badly rusted and the wood part decayed. His father bought it for less than a dollar, had the local gunsmith clean off the rust, shorten the barrel, and bore it out smooth. Senior Ridgway shaped and finished a new stock from wild cherry wood. He had the breech piece and the trigger-guard cast in brass at a local foundry, and presented his son with the remade instrument, a shotgun.

It is strange how some seemingly unimportant event shapes our lives, although at the time we fail to realize its influence. The possession of his own gun took Robert out into the woods more than ever. As a result he became a good shot, obtained more specimens, and sought more knowledge of the one thing in which he was interested—birds. There were plenty of birds in the Wabash valley, there was plenty of powder for his shotgun since he mixed it himself in his father's pharmacy, and there was plenty of desire for knowledge on the part of the



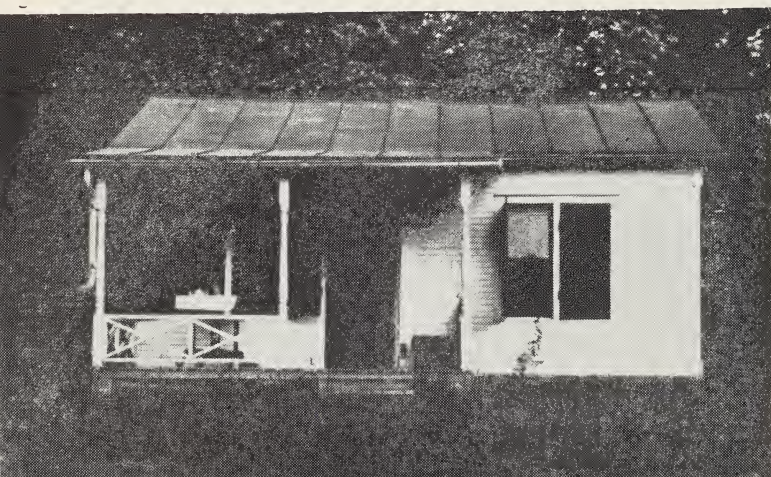
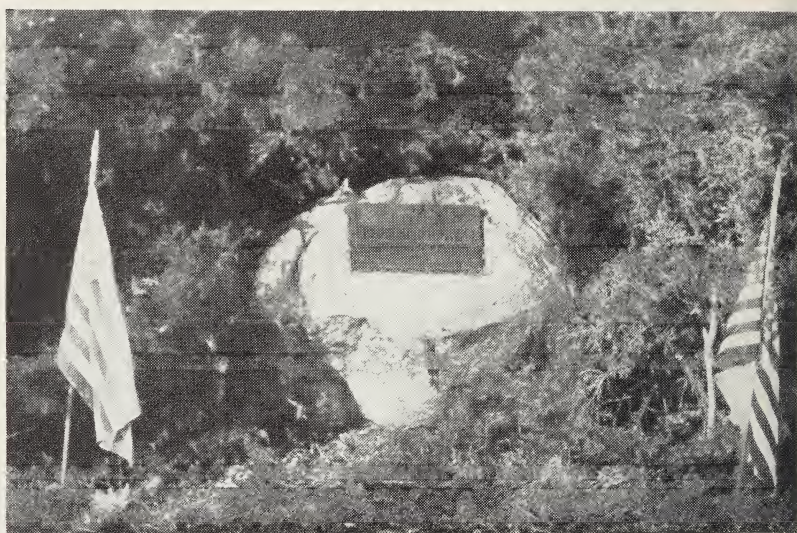
Above—Robert Ridgway at his desk in Washington, D. C. (Courtesy Harvey D. Hays, Olney). Below—Left to right—Prof. French, Dr. Ridgway, Miss Hilda Stein, Miss Frances Etheridge, and Hal Trovillion at Bird Haven. (Photo courtesy Dr. W. M. Gersbacher).





Larchmound in
winter. Photo
courtesy Harvey
D. Hays, Olney

Grave of Robert
Ridgway, Bird
Haven.



Ridgway cottage
at Bird Haven.

Photo by Fish and Wild-
life Service, U. S. Dept.
of Interior.

young boy, Robert. The result is as one would expect.

There came the day when some of Robert's boy friends had an argument over the proper identification of a particular bird which Robert had painted. The mother of one of the boys, Lucien Turner, who, himself, was to become a great naturalist in later years, gave Robert an envelope addressed to the Commissioner of Patents, at Washington, D. C., and suggested that Robert send the sketch to him for identification.

The Patent Office was not the proper place to obtain the desired information, but a kindly official sent the communication to Professor Spencer Fullerton Baird, assistant secretary of the Smithsonian Institution. His reply informed Robert Ridgway that the bird in question was a purple finch. Thus began Ridgway's contact with the institution that he served from the time he was seventeen years old, until his retirement from active duty, in 1916.

Baird became interested in the young student and continued a correspondence with him, instructing Robert how to keep scientific records, to preserve skins and eggs, and to make minute drawings of birds and mammals. So much ability was shown that, in the spring of 1867, Baird recommended the appointment of Ridgway as zoologist to Clarence King, then about to undertake the Geological Survey of the Fortieth Parallel.

Ridgway left home, therefore, at the age of seventeen to go to Washington. He spent two weeks there receiving instructions before he joined the party at New York, and embarked on work that was to occupy his next two years. The party went by steamer to Panama, crossed the Isthmus, and proceeded by boat (a side-wheeler as were all ocean boats in those days) to San Francisco, arriving in June. The group worked from Sacramento east to Salt Lake City and the Uinta Mountains, until the fall of 1868, when the party returned to Washington.

Ridgway went back to the Wasatch and Uinta Mountains to complete the work in the summer of 1869.

What must have been the thoughts of the young Ridgway as he lay awake at night on the western mountain slopes? Did he think of the days of his earlier years when he was filled with a great longing to know more of the feathered life of his land? Did he remember the leather-bound volume, *The Animal Kingdom Illustrated*, which he saw in a store in Olney, when he and his mother were there on a visit, and which she purchased? Written by Samuel G. Goodrich and published in 1859, 354 of its 680 pages almost became a Bible to him as he pored over the pages devoted to birds. Did he think of Audubon, Wilson, Bonaparte, and Nuttall, none of them living, but all great names of ornithology, which had so inspired him as a teen-age boy? He must have had such thoughts while undergoing this first magical experience, for in the last years of his life he could recall these boyhood thrills and ambitions so vividly that the listener almost could feel that he were living them himself.

At the time of the western expedition, Professor Baird and Doctor Thomas M. Brewer of Boston were preparing their joint work on the birds of North America. When Ridgway returned from his western field experience, they engaged him to make the technical descriptions, and some of the drawings, because he had a marvelous aptitude for minute detail.

The secretary and the younger members of the staff of the Smithsonian, in the early days, lived in the building which housed the Institution. Robert's living quarters were on the top floor of the south tower. In his early Washington days he was very much of a dandy, being very careful of his grooming. He developed a shy sense of humor and was popular with his fellow workers.

His association with the other young naturalists who

were there in training, and with older men of repute who worked on different collections, gave him a highly specialized education. No doubt the Smithsonian Institution already was a science academy in those days.

It was in 1874 that Ridgway became the official ornithologist on the staff of the Smithsonian Institution. This was a step-up from the fifty dollar a month post he previously had held. In a short time, he was recognized internationally as an authority on this subject. He received successive promotions, until he was given the title of "Curator of Birds," which he held until his death. Of course, there were increases in the amount of remuneration from time to time. The outgrowth of Ridgway's concentration on American birds was eight volumes, the *Birds of North and Middle America*, published as Bulletin 50 of the United States National Museum, during the period between 1901 and 1919.

In 1913, Robert Ridgway received the Walker Grand Prize of the Boston Society of Natural History, amounting to one thousand dollars, given him particularly for his work on these books. Two more volumes were in preparation at the time of his death. This ten-volume work of his is the basis, today, of all such studies.

While working with Baird and Brewer on the *History of North American Birds*, Ridgway met and married, October 12, 1875, Julia Evelyn Perkins. She was the daughter of one of the engravers who made the plates for the book. It is not strange that their son, born May 15, 1877, should be named Audubon Whelock Ridgway; nor that he should follow in his father's line of work. Soon after Audubon Ridgway became assistant to Charles B. Cory, curator of zoology in the Field Museum of Chicago, he contracted pneumonia and died February 22, 1901. The shock to his mother was so great that it broke her health.

From the time that Robert Ridgway mixed his own

paints in his father's prescription laboratory, through the years of his work for Baird and Brewer, the colors obtainable and the color names had been unsatisfying to him. Finally, he concluded that for bird portraiture to be correct, and in fact for all colored works, a uniform series of color names and a standardization of color values were imperative. As a result, in 1886, Ridgway's first work on colors, *Nomenclature of Colors for Naturalists and Compendium of Useful Knowledge for Ornithologists* (those were the days of long titles), was published by Little, Brown and Company. It contained ten plates showing 186 named colors. The book immediately became a standard among naturalists, because by its aid they were able definitely to establish the variations of colors they used in their descriptions.

Finding that the plates faded and shades changed, Ridgway was not satisfied with his first volume, so he continued his color studies for many years. Ultimately, in 1912, he produced a new and enlarged edition. This was the result of scientific development and experiments with the color wheel and Maxwell disks. He mixed positive spectrum colors in definite percentages to obtain a series of named colors, so that the process could be repeated and the shades duplicated at any time.

The new edition was entitled *Color Standards and Color Nomenclature*, and contains 53 plates, showing, in small rectangles, 1115 named colors. With each plate are tables giving the precise proportions of each mixture for each color. Sufficient of each color, for the entire edition of five thousand copies, was produced at one time. This insured absolute uniformity. Ridgway's work still is in great demand because it has proven of inestimable value to florists, and to manufacturers of wall paper, paints, and to numerous industries.

Odd though it seems, Ridgway was not fond of travel; but, nevertheless, for the sake of collecting specimens

for the Institution, he made three extended trips to Florida, and accompanied the Harriman expedition to Alaska in 1899. Ever since crossing the Isthmus of Panama, Ridgway had wanted to learn more about tropical birds. In 1904, and again in 1908, he made trips to Costa Rica for specimens lacking in his systematic study of birds.

The man's written contributions to the scientific world are sound in the judgment of values and are carefully detailed. His first paper, written in 1869, is on the nesting of the belted kingfisher. Numerous others followed, besides his book-work in collaboration with Baird and Brewer. In 1887, his *Manual of North American Birds* was published, a key to the identification of all known species.

Ridgway was one of the twenty-three founders of the American Ornithologists Union in 1883. In 1894, he was relieved of active duty at the Smithsonian in order to make his official task the assembling of notes, accumulated through the years, into a systematic catalog of birdlife in the great area from Panama to Canada. A great deal of his labor was done in his home because of interruptions at the office. He went to the Museum only for examination of specimens. At last the Ridgways decided to leave Washington, both because of Mrs. Ridgway's health and so that Robert might have more leisure in which to write.

Never having forgotten the area where he spent his childhood, and wishing to put an end to forty-five years of homesickness, Robert Ridgway brought his wife to Illinois, in 1916, and bought a home at Olney, Illinois. In the early years of his employment he had bought a home for his parents on what is now Highway 130 at the edge of Olney. It was there his mother died, December 14, 1886, and his father on January 4, 1888.

Ridgway's idea was to develop a bird sanctuary near

Olney. For this purpose he acquired by purchase eight acres, and was donated ten acres of the original eighteen by Ernst Z. Bower, Olney druggist and lifelong friend. Ridgway named the bird sanctuary and arboretum Bird Haven. It is two and one-half miles north of Olney on a graveled extension of East Avenue. It proved inadvisable, because of Mrs. Ridgway's health, to live outside the city, so he purchased the home he called Larchmound, originally the old Rowland property, on South Morgan Street, covering eight acres. The home is now owned by Harvey D. Hays. Here the couple lived until Mrs. Ridgway died, May 24, 1927. Mrs. Lida R. Palmatier came to keep the home for her brother. Throughout the fifty-two years of their married life, Mrs. Ridgway was more interested in her husband's work than in anything else. She left sealed instructions that her remains be cremated after her death and her ashes "scattered to mingle with God's great out-of-doors, which I love so much." Since she did not specify where, Ridgway scattered the ashes at Bird Haven, near the site of the little cottage where they spent their happiest and more care-free days.

Though it can be said that Robert Ridgway virtually retired from active duty when he moved to Olney, he actually continued his work on his *Birds of North and Middle America* until the eight volumes were published in 1919. Doctor Alexander Wetmore says, in his memorial paper about Robert Ridgway: "In the following years he frequently expressed a wish to retire, influenced in part by failing eyesight, and at one time made definite application for retirement, but at my own urgent request was prevailed upon to continue. While there was realization that in all probability he would not see his task completed it was highly desirable for the advance of science to obtain from him as much as possible of the results of his long years of study and observation.

To this end he continued work on the last two volumes of the series, working particularly on the diagnoses of genera, families, and other higher groups.

"As a worker of the older school Ridgway's writing was all in long hand, prepared carefully, with any corrections and interlineations required made with meticulous care. His manuscripts were completed in so legible and accurate a condition that they were given to the printer without necessity of being typewritten, being set in type directly from the longhand copy. To assist in his work, thousands of specimens were measured for him by Mr. J. H. Riley and others, and Mr. Riley assisted also in compiling references for the synonymies given under each species."

In 1920, Ridgway was awarded the Daniel Giraud Elliott Medal of the National Academy of Sciences, and in 1921, received the William Brewster Medal. He became a member of the National Academy of Sciences in 1926.

Needing relaxation from his writing, Ridgway turned to horticulture. He landscaped and developed Larchmound. He made regular trips to Bird Haven. From the government and many sources he secured unusual new wild plants and trees, until the property could show a greater variety of wild plant life than any similar spot in the world, except one in Japan. At the height of his care, the preserve contained seventy-five species of the pine tree, every specie of elm native to America, twenty-five oak, seven of the eight species of magnolia, in addition to a hundred kinds of roses, sixteen varieties of grapes, and hundreds of rare oriental and semi-tropical plants.

It was Ridgway's desire that Bird Haven be a permanent sanctuary for birds. To this end, a committee representing the Wilson Ornithological Club, the Cooper Ornithological Club, and the American Ornithologists

Union started to raise an endowment fund that would permit Ridgway to retire and which would provide perpetual care for Bird Haven. The plan was changed before the goal was reached. The Federation of Women's Clubs of Illinois then took over, and, with the assistance of Mrs. Frances K. Hutchinson of Lake Geneva, completed the arrangements, establishing an endowment of \$50,000 and purchasing an additional ninety-six acres adjoining the original eighteen, to enlarge Bird Haven and to insure its upkeep.

Upon Ridgway's death, the bird sanctuary was given to the University of Chicago, which, through its business office and the departments of botany and zoology, directs its upkeep. The caretakers are Mr. and Mrs. William D. Petzel, who live in the cottage built for Doctor and Mrs. Ridgway, and in which they lived until they bought Larchmound.

A high wire fence tightly encloses Bird Haven. The preserve does not have an artificial appearance, but is like a natural woods with a profusion of low growing vegetation, and mowed winding paths. It is open to the public only by permission of the caretaker, who accompanies visitors coming to study and to admire. The birds of the area find refuge among the many varieties of trees and plants, and are fed by the caretaker during winter.

Fellow workers in ornithology have perpetuated Robert Ridgway's work by naming in his honor two genera, twenty-three species, and ten sub-species of birds. In the complete bibliography of Ridgway's writings we find many papers and pamphlets on subjects pertaining specifically to Southern Illinois, and others concerning Illinois in general. He wrote a great many articles for such magazines as *Forest and Stream* and *American Sportsman*, many of them contributions to the "Sparrow War," and the publication of the National Museum.

In the more than five hundred of Robert Ridgway's writings one finds many that pertain to Egypt, Illinois. Among them are: *New Birds in Southern Illinois*, *Notes on the Vegetation of the Lower Wabash Valley*, *The Prairie Birds of Southern Illinois*, *Bird Life in Southern Illinois—Bird Haven*, *Bird Life in Southern Illinois—Larchmound*, and others.

This man of Southern Illinois, without a college education, was honored by the scientists as the foremost in his line. He knew and could recognize more than 4,500 varieties of birds.

A little below the average in height, Robert Ridgway was a pleasant man with his chief physical characteristic a huge walrus moustache. Kindly of disposition, this lover of birds, animals, flowers, and trees was loved equally by those who knew him.

In his seventy-ninth year, on March 25, 1929, Robert Ridgway died. At his request, he was buried on a hill-top in Bird Haven. The sanctuary always will remain as a memorial to the man whose greatest interest was living birds.

Funeral services were held for Robert Ridgway at Larchmound. As a quartet was singing to close the services, the human voices almost were drowned out. A mocking bird on the nearby fence trilled a requiem to Robert Ridgway with such singing by this feathered friend as those in attendance at the services never before had heard. Both birds and humans loved Robert Ridgway.

XI.

First Attorney General—

Daniel Pope Cook

By Barbara Burr Hubbs

THE County of Cook." "Cook County, Illinois." Hundreds of times we hear or read these phrases, yet who stops to think why that particular four-letter word has been applied to the populous area along the shore of Lake Michigan? Who was the Cook whose name is thus commemorated?

In the early days of our State, Egypt was Illinois. Northern Illinois was a fringe of scattered settlements frequently depopulated by Indian raids.

One of the best-loved figures of that early Illinois was Daniel Pope Cook. Probably he never saw Fort Dearborn, or the Chicago River, or the little village in the mud nearby. In his day there was little to be seen, anyway. Cook County was not created until four years and three months after his death. It was another six years before Chicago was incorporated. Daniel Pope Cook had served the people of Illinois and his memory was dear to his contemporaries. The legislature meeting at Vandalia erected a monument that makes his name immortal. Those who live in the county that bears his name may share his contemporaries' pride in him, for he was a man of high principle and a worthy public servant. Let him speak for himself:

"I repeat, all my feelings are in favor of the admission of Missouri. Both political and personal reasons combine to render it a desirable event. Were it consistent with my sense of the duty which I owe to the country and the Constitution to give such a vote upon the resolution under consideration, I am sure no member on this floor would do it with more pleasure. But, while I consider the Constitution the rock upon which our temple of liberty must stand, and having sworn to support it, I feel myself called upon to forego all such considerations, and defend the Constitution against infringement. Should we suffer our individual feelings and wishes to

enter into our deliberations and discussions, so far as to govern our public conduct, those feelings and wishes, like the imperceptible rising of the tide, will finally run over every principle of the Constitution, and we shall ultimately find ourselves floating at large upon the open sea of uncertainty, without a single landmark to guide us."

That speech was made in the halls of Congress, when Cook was the single member from Illinois in the House of Representatives. It expresses the principle that guided his conduct as a public man.

Governor John Reynolds records that Cook "rose high, shined bright and died soon. He was the darling and idol of the people. The name of Daniel P. Cook is yet sweet music in the ears of many an old pioneer of Illinois. They involuntarily cry out, 'When is the election?' "

Illinois was Cook's adopted state. He was born in Scott County, Kentucky, about 1794, and was given the meager education of the common schools in those days, and was apprenticed to a merchant. His aspiration was for something higher than the dull trading of tea or gunpowder for a hunter's pelts or a farmer's produce. He came to Illinois.

The secretary of Illinois Territory was Nathaniel Pope, a relative of young Cook's mother. Under Pope's guidance the newcomer established himself as a lawyer in Kaskaskia, the territorial capital. This was toward the end of 1815.

At that time Illinois had but one newspaper, owned and edited by Matthew Duncan, brother of the Joseph Duncan who was to become governor of Illinois in 1834. Matthew Duncan had published the Illinois laws of 1813 at his press in Russellville, Kentucky. The next year he brought that press to Kaskaskia, and established the first newspaper in Illinois, the *Illinois Herald*.

Daniel Pope Cook became editor of this paper. In 1817, Matthew Duncan wished to enter the army, and he sold out to Cook and Blackwell. They renamed the paper the *Illinois Intelligencer*, and when the state capital was moved to Vandalia in 1820, the paper also was moved. About the time that Daniel P. Cook began to present himself as a candidate to the people, his name disappeared from the masthead—but the paper supported his policies and candidacies.

Ninian Edwards, territorial governor of Illinois, appointed Cook auditor of public accounts in 1816.

Nathaniel Pope was the territorial representative for Illinois in the United States Congress. His young relative visited him in Washington, and met President-elect Monroe. As a result Cook was sent to London with dispatches. John Quincy Adams then represented the United States at the British court, and the letters included an invitation for Adams to be secretary of state in the new cabinet. Adams and Cook sailed home together, and the slow voyage gave them an opportunity to become friends.

Cook returned to Illinois with the appointment as circuit judge of the western circuit, composed of the counties surrounding his home at Kaskaskia. There is a record of the first term of court in Union County, over which Judge Cook presided. The honorable court sat in the log house of Jacob Hunsaker on May 11, 1818. Only the judge and a lawyer or two wore "store clothes." The citizens were dressed in hunting shirts and coon skin caps. Many were barefoot, the others wore deerskin moccasins. Shot pouch and hunting knife hung at their belts, but there was no lack of solemnity and order.

Judge Cook addressed the members of the grand jury: "Gentlemen of the grand jury, you are charged with the affairs of the County of Union in the Territory of Illinois and the weal or woe of litigants and criminals.

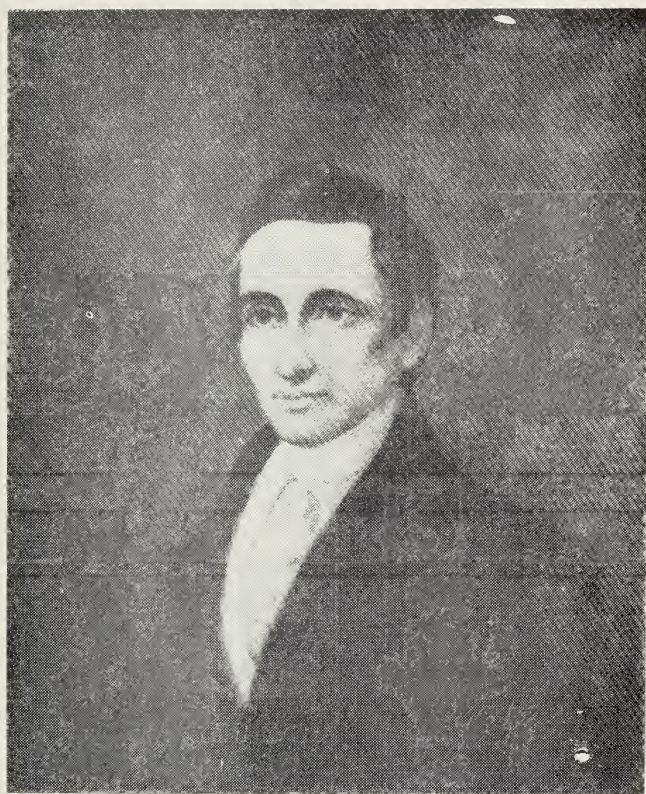
Mr. Sheriff, you will now be pleased to conduct the grand jury to their room for deliberation."

In dignified silence the jurors filed from the courtroom and out into the woods, where the sheriff indicated a fallen log beneath the forest trees. That was the grand jury room. There they conducted their deliberations. Among the civil cases at this term of court was a "hot" trial over the meat of a wild hog, which one hunter had shot and another had captured.

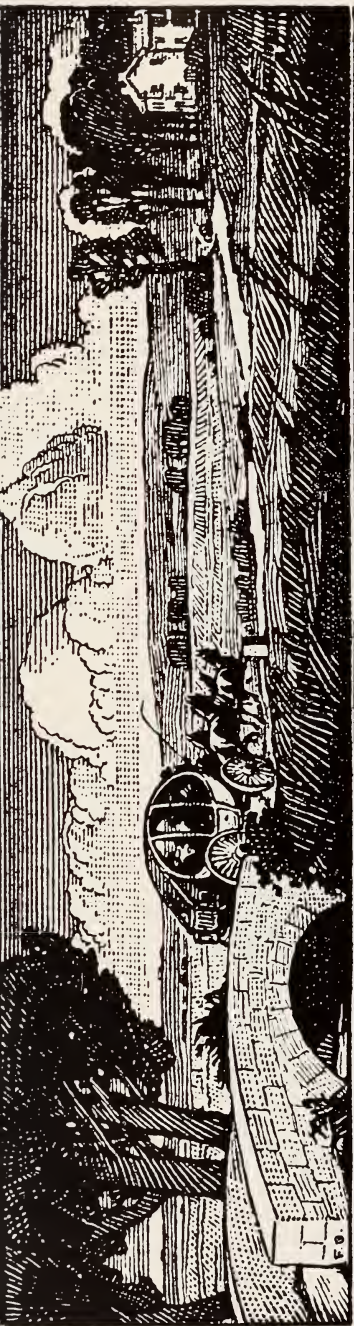
Cook had brought home from Washington an idea that meant more than his appointment as circuit judge. Why should not Illinois be released from the subservience of having her officers appointed at Washington, and assume her proper sovereignty as a state in the Federal Union? His newspaper, the *Illinois Intelligencer*, began to advocate statehood.

When the territorial legislature met in December, 1817, Cook was elected clerk of the lower house. There were only twelve members, and they all roomed together in an old French mansion at Kaskaskia. These men drafted a memorial to the United States Congress requesting statehood for Illinois. Cook suggested that it would be wise to organize more counties in the territory and make a better showing. Consequently, Franklin, Union, and Washington counties were created on January 2, 1818.

Nathaniel Pope presented the memorial as Illinois' territorial delegate, and the enabling act he wrote was approved by Congress in April, 1818. A constitutional convention met at Kaskaskia in August, and an election for state officers was held in September. On October 5, the first governor of the *State* of Illinois, Shadrach Bond, was inaugurated. During this busy year of elections, Daniel Pope Cook took an active part in the campaigns. He is said to have had a rare gift of eloquence. He canvassed the settled portion of the State, and intro-



DANIEL POPE COOK



Above—Stage coach travel in pioneer days. Below—Political speaking in early America. (Courtesy Illinois Bell Telephone Company).



duced the practice of stump speaking. Cook's service was rewarded by his appointment as the first attorney general of Illinois, entering upon his duties March 5, 1819. He registered himself as a Democrat and a citizen of Randolph County.

Just a few months later the *Illinois Intelligencer* announced Cook's candidacy for Congress and printed this campaign song:

COOK AND LIBERTY

"To choose a good Congressman, now is the time,
Good counsel I'll give, 'tho' I give it in rhyme,
I swear by my conscience (and would on the Book)
I think our best choice will be Daniel P. Cook.

"His manners are modest, his morals are pure,
His talents are good, and his principles sure,
He'll vote to please us, not a party or whim,
Then stay Mr. Mac—, we'll make trial of him.

"M'Lean and our Senators all went astray,
Nor chose their constituents' will to obey;
May the latter repent, and their error confess:
Nor dare to say NO, when the people say YES.

"Then come my good friends, for I'm sure we'll agree,
To put down a man who supports slavery,
And one to elect, on whom all can depend,
Who to freedom, to right, t'our state is a friend."

On the first Monday in August, 1819, Judge Cook became Congressman Cook. His life work began. His other public service had been merely preparation. He was twenty-five; he had eight years of life before him. These were devoted to the people of Illinois whom he represented as their single member in the lower house of Congress.

This was the period when the people demanded internal improvements, although some reactionaries felt that "infernal improvements" would be the better term.

Roads and canals were being built. Congressman Cook insisted that the National Road, which was being constructed from Cumberland, Maryland, through Ohio and Indiana, be continued to Alton, Illinois. There it would meet the other great highway of those days, the Mississippi River. The road was surveyed through Illinois, and the streams were bridged. Before grading and paving were completed, railroads were being built. Construction of the road was turned over to the localities through which it passed.

Congressman Cook was successful in securing the donation of United States lands to aid the construction of the Illinois and Michigan Canal. He established the principle that the public domain be used for public purposes. Previously, public lands had been sold only to benefit the United States Treasury. Cook took, and popularized, the view that the public domain should be devoted to the general interests of the people.

In the summer of 1821, Daniel P. Cook married Julia Catherine, the eldest daughter of Ninian Edwards, then United States senator from Illinois. They made their home in Edwardsville, Madison County, to which town the Edwards family had moved recently from Kaskaskia.

The question of slavery had not been settled by the Illinois Constitution of 1818. Agitation to legalize slavery caused the legislature of 1823 to submit to the people the proposition of calling a convention to revise the constitution. Anti-slavery men were successful at the election on August 2, 1824.

Cook, now a candidate for a fourth term, canvassed the State in behalf of the anti-slavery forces. Both he and Senator Edwards were natives of slave states, but both were leaders in this fight to keep Illinois a free state.

These were the days of which one of Cook's political rivals records: "His name is sweet music in the ears of citizens of Illinois. You have only to mention it, and

the old men say, 'When is the election?' " There was a charm about Daniel Cook's conversation and manner that made him an agreeable companion everywhere. Once when he was riding alone through the country on an election canvass, he halted at a farmhouse and asked for a night's shelter. The following conversation took place:

"Ye be welcome, stranger. Light and look at your saddle. The old woman's jest settin' out some vittles."

"What is the news of the neighborhood, sir? Is there much talk of the election?"

"Folks're too busy with their crops to gab much. Candeedates don't get down this way. We-all be feared that that damned little Yankee, Cook, is goin' to be elected to Congress agin."

With no comment, Cook began a discussion of national affairs couched in terms of the frontier. The farmer and his wife sat up long beyond their usual bedtime, listening to a true American say things about their country they had felt but never put into words. The next morning, when Cook was ready to ride on, the farmer said:

"Stranger, how do you-all call yourself? So be you'll tell, I'd be proud to know."

"Why, sir, I'm that damned Yankee, Cook."

The farmer stood open-mouthed with astonishment as he watched his guest ride off. Thereafter he was counted among the firm supporters of Cook and all his works.

Daniel Pope Cook was serving his fourth term in Congress when the choice of a president devolved upon the House of Representatives. The famous "scrub race" between John Quincy Adams, Henry Clay, William Crawford, and Andrew Jackson had resulted in no election by the people. Congressman Cook cast the vote of Illinois for Adams. The growing Jackson party in Illinois charged that Cook had betrayed his trust. A

Jackson man immediately began to canvass the State as a candidate for Congress in the 1826 election.

The sessions were important. Daniel Pope Cook was burdened by ill-health. He made no campaign. He was defeated, but continued his work for Illinois. As a lame-duck, he secured the land grant for the Illinois and Michigan Canal. After the close of the Congressional session, Cook accepted a diplomatic mission to Cuba, where he hoped the mild climate would assist in improving his health. He continued to fail, and returned to Illinois by the way of New Orleans.

In the fall he gratified a wish to return to the place of his birth. There in Kentucky he died on October 16, 1827.

Mrs. Cook lived in Edwardsville until her family moved to Belleville, where she died in 1830. Their one son made his home in Springfield, which city he served as mayor in 1855. John Cook served with honor in the Civil War and was promoted to the rank of brigadier general for gallantry at Fort Donelson in 1862. Later, he served as Sangamon County's representative in the General Assembly. General John Cook died near Ransom, Michigan, in 1910.

Mr. Justice McLean of the United States Supreme Court, speaking of Daniel Pope Cook, said: "Mr. Cook stands well with all parties, and is not excelled, in weight of character, talents, and influence, by any member from the west."

Citizens of Cook County well may use his name with pride. They honor the memory of a pioneer lawyer and law-giver of their own State, a man who was foremost in the establishment of the State, who served his State as its first attorney general and as its second congressman in the days when Illinois had only one representative. Daniel Pope Cook was the idol of Egypt when Egypt was Illinois.

XII.

Fighter: Military, Political—

Green Berry Raum

By Josephine and Scerial Thompson

SLAVERY brought about the Civil War and the rift between the North and the South. The Civil War brought about a cleavage in the group of Southern Illinois lawyers who had been associated together in their practice before the bar of the region.

John A. Logan left the special session of Congress to fight in the First Battle of Bull Run, and was succeeded in Congress by his former law partner, Judge William J. Allen. Robert G. Ingersoll left his Peoria practice to enter the Northern Army. Green Berry Raum helped organize a regiment and made the first war speech in Southern Illinois when he spoke at Metropolis in support of the Union.

Allen openly opposed the war and was arrested for disloyalty while a member of Congress. The paths of Raum, the Ingersolls, and Allen were to cross again and again in political fights in the years that followed the end of the war.

Born at Golconda, the seat of Pope County, Illinois, December 3, 1829, Green Berry Raum was destined to become a fine lawyer, an able general, a substantial member of Congress, and for more than thirty years the father of the newly-born Republican party in southeastern Illinois.

He was the son of Lieutenant John Raum and Juliette C. Field Raum. His mother was the daughter of Green B. Field, a native of Virginia, who resided in Bourbon County, Kentucky, at the time of her birth, and who later became prominent in the settlement of Golconda, Illinois, on the north bank of the Ohio River.

Green B. Field, who married Mary E. Cogswell, the daughter of Joseph Cogswell of Connecticut, a sergeant in the Revolutionary War, was a lieutenant in the War of 1812.

In that same war, John Raum, father of Green Berry

Raum, served the American cause. The first of the Rahms, as the name was spelled originally, was Conrad Rahm, a native of Alsace, who had settled near Reading, Pennsylvania, in 1742. He served for three years in Captain Benjamin Weiser's company, being made a corporal. Following his service in the Colonial Army, Conrad Rahm married Catherine Weiser, assumed to be a daughter of Rahm's captain, and in 1793, at Hummelstown, Pennsylvania, a son, Melchoir Rahm, was born.

John Raum, the son of Melchoir, changed the spelling of the family name when his commission in the War of 1812 was issued. For gallant conduct he was promoted on the field of battle to first lieutenant. At the close of the war, he moved to Golconda, and on March 22, 1827, was married to Juliette C. Field. Green Berry Raum was their son, who was the sixth of ten children.

After serving as brigade major in the short Black Hawk War, John Raum was elected state senator for his district in 1833. In that same year, he was appointed circuit clerk of Pope County and served continuously as either circuit or county clerk until his death in 1869.

Young Green Berry was but four years old when his father started his career in public life, and most of the lad's early years were spent in and about his father's offices. For a while, Green worked in a mercantile establishment, but it was around his father's offices that he formed his attraction to the law and his love for politics.

Green Berry was married on October 15, 1851, to Maria Field, his third cousin. She was the youngest daughter of Daniel Field and was born on April 13, 1832. Daniel Field, her father, was a substantial land owner, stock raiser, and business man of Pope County.

Raum was admitted to practice law in 1853. He had secured his legal education studying in the law office of Judge Wesley Sloan of Golconda, then a judge of the

Circuit Court in the Nineteenth Judicial Circuit which included Pope County. Following his admission to the practice of law, Raum opened a law office and began his professional career in his home town of Golconda. Three years later, however, he, with his family, removed to Kansas Territory which was beginning to be settled widely.

John Raum was affiliated with the Democratic party then in political ascendancy in Southern Illinois. Green Berry, almost as a natural consequence, also affiliated with the Democratic party. Nevertheless, young Green was not a believer in slavery and, after moving to Kansas, soon found himself in the center of the hot and sanguinary slavery struggle then existing there. As the conflict assumed great proportions, and it seemed the pro-slavery men were in the majority, the young Illinois lawyer felt it necessary to remove his family to safety, and in the latter part of 1856, returned to Illinois.

In December, 1857, Raum purchased a home in Harrisburg, the largest village in Saline County, directly north of his home county of Pope, and in Harrisburg he again began the practice of law. Saline and Pope Counties were included in the Nineteenth Judicial Circuit, and also in the Thirteenth Congressional District.

At this time, there was a strong and commanding Bar in Southern Illinois. John A. Logan was practicing law in Benton, the seat of Franklin County, and had as his law partner William Joshua Allen, who lived at Marion, the seat of Williamson County. William Joshua Allen was the son of Willis Allen, then one of the presiding judges of the Circuit Court. Ebon C. Ingersoll and his to-be-famous brother, Robert G. Ingersoll, were practicing law at Shawneetown. Both Ingersoll boys had studied law under Judge Allen.

The Ingersoll brothers were to move to Peoria within a few months of Raum's return to Illinois, and, for the

next thirty years, the names and the lives of Logan, Allen, Raum, and the Ingersolls were, curiously, to be intertwined in the conflict of the reconstruction period following the Civil War.

The home purchased by Raum in December, 1857, was located on lots numbered 25 and 26 in John W. Mitchell's addition to Harrisburg and still is known as the "old Raum house." It is located at the corner of Cherry and Walnut Streets and Raum kept it until 1885, when he sold it to Attorney, later Judge, A. W. Lewis. It passed into other hands and later was willed by Mrs. Mary Board to the Presbyterian Church of Harrisburg and the Board of Foreign Missions, providing it was sold within twenty years from Mrs. Board's death. It was sold in 1946, and has since been remodeled and modernized by the purchaser.

The house was a four-room, one-story, frame dwelling, with a wide center hall as was usual and customary in building construction in the middle part of the nineteenth century.

Young Raum was yet a Democrat and had formed an allegiance to that faction of the party supporting Stephen A. Douglas. In 1859, Raum was appointed reading clerk of the lower house in the Illinois General Assembly, and while thus serving drafted a new probate act that was enacted by the Legislature into law, and of which Raum was sufficiently proud to mention in his autobiographical sketch included in his book, *History of Illinois Republicanism*, written and published in later years.

In that same year of 1857, Raum and William H. Parish were appointed by the County Court of Saline County to select a third person to serve with them in choosing a site in Harrisburg to which the courthouse, then in Raleigh, would be moved. The fight for the removal of the county seat from Raleigh to Harrisburg had been

a strongly contested one in which both Raum and Parish had played an important part in bringing about the change.

The future general and his family soon found themselves perfectly at home in Harrisburg, and he assumed a leading place in the affairs of the village. He had joined the Masonic order while living at Golconda, and, on October 5, 1859, assisted in forming a lodge at Harrisburg, becoming its first Worshipful Master. This close affection for Harrisburg and care for its affairs did not diminish during the years, and, in 1871, several years after his service in the lower house of Congress, he served a year term as president of the Village Board.

Raum, like the other attorneys of the time, advertised his professional card in the weekly newspapers printed in the various counties in the district, and his practice was spread through Franklin, Williamson, Saline, Pope, and the several counties in the Judicial Circuit.

By 1860, Raum, the Douglas Democrat, was sufficiently in the political limelight to be selected alternate delegate to the Democratic National Convention. His political connection with William Joshua Allen was begun intimately when Allen was chosen as the delegate. Allen by that time had succeeded his father as one of the judges in the Judicial Circuit, and was holding court at Benton in Franklin County when the time arrived to attend the Democratic Convention at Charleston, South Carolina, on April 23, 1860. In order to permit Allen to attend the Convention, and by agreement of the attorneys representing both parties to the case then being tried, Raum substituted as judge, and Allen went to the Convention to vote for Douglas for the presidential nomination.

War clouds were hovering over the nation and the Charleston Convention tried in vain for fifty-seven ballots to select a nominee. Douglas had a simple majority

but could not obtain the two-thirds majority necessary for nomination. The Convention recessed to reconvene at Baltimore on June 18. Allen in the meantime more than ever had become committed to the Southern views on the impending conflict and did not attend the Baltimore Convention. Raum, the alternate, attended, and assisted in the two-thirds majority which Douglas was there able to obtain because several of the Southern States had refused to send delegates to the re-convened Convention.

Raum, together with John A. Logan, was deeply attached to Douglas and records that he, Logan, and William H. Green visited Douglas on the Sunday following the Convention and listened to the plans of Douglas to canvass the South, gain the Presidency, and save the Union.

Raum returned to Harrisburg and his district and campaigned vigorously for Douglas. That his efforts were not altogether in vain is shown by the election returns in Saline County which gave Douglas a vote of 1338 and gave Lincoln only 100 votes. In this election, John A. Logan was elected to Congress as a Douglas Democrat from the Thirteenth Congressional District, and Robert G. Ingersoll was defeated as the Democratic nominee for Congress in the Peoria, or Fourth District.

The tales told of the vacillation of Logan, about whether to remain loyal to the Union or turn Southward, caused a bitter chapter in the relations between Allen and Logan, and involved Raum in the rabid consequences in the political campaign of 1866.

On the outbreak of the war, Raum aided in forming the Fifty-sixth Illinois Infantry in Egypt, and was commissioned one of its majors on September 28, 1861. On June 26, 1862, he was promoted to the rank of lieutenant colonel and on August 31, 1862, was given a full colonelship.

The Fifty-sixth Illinois Infantry was mustered into service at Camp Mather, near Shawneetown, and was ordered by General Grant to Paducah for garrison duty. Later it was sent up the Tennessee River, on the boats with General Halleck, and aided in the siege of Corinth. It then was assigned to a division commanded by General Schuyler Hamilton, and to a brigade with the Fifth, Tenth, and Seventeenth Iowa, the Tenth Missouri, and the Eighteenth Ohio Regiments.

In October 1863, the Confederates under Generals Price and Van Dorn attacked Corinth, then held by the Union forces under General Rosecrans. Price attacked the extreme right of the positions north and west of the town held by General Hamilton. The Union line gave way and much ground and ten pieces of artillery were taken by the Rebels. The Fifty-sixth Illinois under Colonel Raum and the Tenth Missouri under Colonel Holmes were shortly behind the front line. When the breakthrough occurred, Colonel Raum ordered the Fifty-sixth Illinois to charge with bayonets. Colonel Holmes, seeing the action of Colonel Raum, ordered likewise, and the advance not only was stopped, but the lost ground and artillery were recovered.

On June 12, 1863, Colonel Raum accepted command of the Second Brigade, Seventh Division, Seventh Army Corps, and on September 19, 1864, was breveted a brigadier general of volunteers. His command of the Second Brigade consisted of the Fifty-sixth Illinois, the Tenth Missouri, the Seventeenth Iowa, and the Eightieth Ohio Regiments. At the Battle of Missionary Ridge in November, 1863, Raum was directed to reinforce the Third Brigade under General Mathias, who was closely engaged with the enemy at the top of the ridge near the tunnel. The movement was made by Raum and his troops under heavy shellfire. Raum sent the Seventeenth Iowa and the Eightieth Ohio in front toward the top of the hill

and held the Fifty-sixth Illinois and the Tenth Missouri slightly behind in reserve.

As the vanguard neared the position held by General Mathias, the Confederates opened a fierce charge down the hill and forced the six regiments of the Third Brigade out of position, causing them to retreat down the hill. When the charge reached the Fifty-sixth Illinois and the Tenth Missouri personally commanded by General Raum, he ordered them to fire directly into the charging enemy. Again, as at Corinth earlier, the valor and courage of the two regiments broke up the charge, and enabled the Union forces to recapture the lost territory.

The brigade lost heavily in this engagement, and General Raum was wounded seriously in the left thigh.

General Raum recovered sufficiently from his wound to return to active duty in February, 1864, and joined his brigade at Huntsville, Alabama. When General Sherman organized his campaign against General Johnson, General Raum and his command were assigned the duty of guarding the Memphis and Chattanooga Railroad, and later the Chattanooga and Atlanta Railroad.

Here, General Raum rendered a most valuable service when, discovering the raid of Wheeler's cavalry, he frustrated Wheeler's designs. After the fall of Atlanta, General Raum was promoted to be a brigadier general in the regular army with headquarters at Cartersville, Georgia. Here, again, he displayed great tact and skill in ascertaining the plans of General Hood and, by promptly communicating the information to General Corse, is credited with saving Allatoona from the Confederate Army.

General Raum's brigade along with that of General Tilton, moved to reinforce Resaca and arrived there about two o'clock in the morning only to find Hood already besieging it. General Raum's leadership was

responsible for saving Resaca and the large depot of Union supplies. The timely notice of General Hood's plans enabled General Sherman to block all the Confederate maneuvers. General Raum's action restored some twenty-five miles of railroad captured by the Confederates.

For his prompt and effective services in the Resaca incident, General Raum received the personal thanks of General Sherman in the presence of a number of his general officers.

Leaving Resaca on November 7, 1864, General Raum reached Atlanta six days later, and on the fourteenth moved with General Sherman and his army on the great "March to the Sea" in all its terrible destructiveness. After the fall of Savannah, Raum marched to Pocotaligo, and there was detached and sent with dispatches to Washington. He next was assigned to duty in the Shenandoah Valley where he was placed in command of the Second Division of the Army of the Shenandoah. On May 6, 1865, he resigned his commission and went home to Illinois.

When General Raum returned to Illinois, he returned as a Grant Republican. The old coterie of Douglas Democrats in Egypt had passed through many changes. Ebon Ingersoll had been elected to Congress from the Peoria District in 1862, and as Congressman at large in 1864. In the 1864 campaign, Colonel Robert G. Ingersoll and General Logan had been detached from army service to return to Illinois to campaign for Lincoln against Fremont.

William J. Allen, the "peace Democrat," who had succeeded Logan as congressman from the Thirteenth or Southern Illinois District, had been defeated in 1864 by A. J. Kuykendall of Cairo. General Logan returned from military service in 1866 and began the practice of law in Chicago. Lincoln was assassinated; Johnson

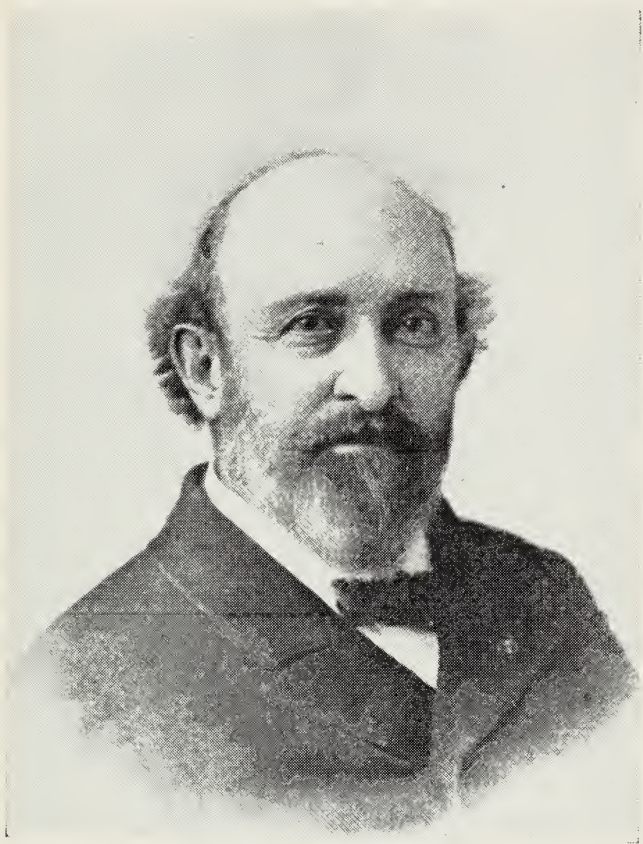
succeeded to the Presidency; the strife of Reconstruction days had begun.

Raum presided as president of the Illinois State Republican Convention in 1866. The Illinois Civil War generals were beginning to "take over." General Logan was nominated for congressman at large. General George W. Smith was nominated for state treasurer. General Oglesby had returned from the army in 1864 to accept the governorship. General Hurlburt had become the first commander in chief of the Grand Army of the Republic.

Northern Illinois was largely Republican. Egypt was yet strongly Democratic. Congressman Kuykendall and former Congressman Allen had taken the side of President Johnson in the political struggle between the Radicals following the national leadership of Stevens and Sumner, and the Conservatives supporting President Johnson. In this maze of political chaos, General Raum accepted the nomination for Congress from the Republicans in the Thirteenth District.

This nomination of Raum at first was considered an empty honor. The District was Democratic. Bitterness was rife. Allen had been defeated in 1864 because of his proposal to Logan that Egypt be allowed to secede and join the South. The two former law partners became deadly enemies. Logan was now a candidate as a Republican, and Allen was given the Democratic nomination for Congress opposing Raum.

The 1866 campaign reached unparalleled intensity. This was the year in which the Union League was organized in Illinois under the leadership of Doctor B. F. Stephenson, formerly of the Fourteenth Illinois Infantry. President Johnson and an official party came to Illinois to dedicate the Douglas Monument in Chicago, and extended the visit to tour downstate. Andrew Johnson could not resist making political speeches, and the



GREEN BERRY RAUM



Standing left to right—Mabel, John, and Frances Raum.
Seated—Maud, Dan, Effie, Green Berry, and Maria Raum.

Democrats were greatly encouraged in their Illinois battle.

This enthusiasm was lessened somewhat when a group of Southern men journeyed from a convention at Philadelphia to Illinois and toured downstate after a visit to the martyred Lincoln's grave. They visited Mattoon, Du Quoin, Cairo, and other places in support of the Republicans.

It was in this atmosphere that Raum and Logan battled for seats in Congress. If Allen was bitter in his race against Raum, he was more keenly acrimonious in fighting Logan, his former law partner. Raum could not, and would not if he could, separate his race from that of Logan. All the stories, rumors, and tales of Logan's initial war vacillation and Allen's disloyalty were paraded before the voters of Egypt.

It indeed was surprising that Raum could be elected as a Republican in this Democratic District but elected he was. His own popularity as an honored general, coupled with the intense disfavor of the District for Allen's war record, gave Raum the victory by a bare majority of 569 votes. Raum carried eight counties and Allen seven. The results in two counties were rather surprising. Raum carried Allen's home county of Williamson, and Allen carried Raum's home county of Saline. However, Logan also lost Saline County, and Raum failed to carry Saline in every one of his four races for Congress.

In Congress, Raum voted for the impeachment of President Andrew Johnson. Undoubtedly Raum felt him guilty of the charges, but one cannot help but believe that the President's speeches in Illinois in the campaign did little to soften Raum's attitude. Raum voted for the purchase of Alaska, and for the Fifteenth Amendment to the Constitution, which gave equality to all races. He introduced a bill favoring the construction of an international railroad from Cairo, in his District, through

the States of Missouri, Arkansas, Texas, to the Pacific Ocean at San Vlas, or Mazatlan, Mexico, with a branch to Mexico City.

In the summer of 1868, Raum was a delegate to the Illinois State Republican Convention, and a member of the Committee on Resolutions. He wielded great power on the Committee and largely was responsible for the adoption of the resolution instructing the delegates to the National Convention to vote for General Grant for the Republican nomination for the Presidency. Raum, Logan, and the Ingersolls, all initially Douglas Democrats from Egypt, were now delivering as Grant Republicans.

In the fall election of 1868, Raum again had been given the Republican nomination for Congress in the Thirteenth District. It was predominantly Democratic, and this time his Democratic opponent was John M. Crebs of Carmi. Raum carried all the same counties as before with the exception of Pulaski but with different vote totals, and was defeated by a small majority. The intense bitterness between the members of the pre-war legal coterie played little part in this campaign, and the vote was principally a straight party vote.

Raum was again a candidate for Congress in 1872. The State had been redistricted and Saline, Raum's home, was in the Nineteenth District. Alexander, Jackson, Johnson, Massac, Perry, Pope, Pulaski, Union, and Williamson Counties were taken away from the old Thirteenth District, and Franklin, Hamilton, Jefferson, Richland, and Wayne had been added to the remainder to form the Nineteenth.

The Democrats nominated Samuel S. Marshall, former circuit judge, of Shawneetown to oppose General Raum. Marshall won by a vote of 13,297 to 11,282.

In 1874, the unrest and dissatisfaction in Illinois gave rise to the movement known as the "Greenback" movement. The malcontents met in convention in Decatur

on February 16, 1874, and were charged by the *Chicago Tribune* to be composed of "sore-head nondescript log-rollers," and "bucolic nurses of Rag-Baby," but the Convention nominated candidates, including Lewis Steward of Kendall County for governor. The Greenbacks nominated William B. Anderson for Congress in the Nineteenth District; the Democrats again nominated Marshall; and the Republicans again nominated General Raum.

The campaign was a strenuous one. General Logan, Carl Schurz, and James G. Blaine stumped the State for the Republicans and although the State went Republican, it availed nothing to General Raum. Anderson, the Greenbacker, received 8,293 votes, Congressman Marshall received 7,556, and General Raum ran third with 5,485 votes.

The following year, General Raum moved back to Golconda, the town of his birth.

In the years following the end of Raum's war service, and to the time he returned to Golconda, he was busy in several commercial enterprises. About the year 1873, he opened the first shipping coal mine in Saline County, located some three miles south of Harrisburg near the old Cairo and Vincennes Railroad. This was a slope or drift mine, not large when measured by present day standards, but quite large when compared to the little "gopher holes" constituting the wagon mines prior to that time.

Soon after his return from the war, General Raum had formed a corporation to construct the Cairo and Vincennes Railroad, and became its first president, and the corporation was granted a charter by the Illinois Legislature. The road ran from St. Francisville, across from Vincennes on the Illinois side of the Wabash River, to Cairo. The counties along the road voted bonds, as was the custom, to aid in building it. On October 5,

1867, Saline County voted to subscribe \$100,000. The company was incorporated on March 6, 1867, and operated until 1881 when it merged with the road that is now the Wabash Railway. It later became a part of the Cairo, Vincennes and Chicago Railway Company, and subsequently became a part of the New York Central System by which it is operated at the present time.

General Raum and Doctor John W. Mitchell, Harrisburg capitalist, formed a partnership during this time and subcontracted part of the construction work on the railroad. They lost money and although Doctor Mitchell was able to pay cash to Dodge, Lord and Company, the general contractors, to make up the losses, General Raum was compelled to mortgage his home to make good his share of the losses. Raum paid the mortgage finally by deeding lots and lands in Saline County to the general contractors.

During these years in Harrisburg, Raum formed a partnership for the practice of law with William M. Christy, an exceptionally able lawyer, and the two of them had a most substantial practice. Later, Raum formed the Imperial Fluor Spar Company and began an operation near what is now known as Stewart's Switch, about two miles south of Eichorn on the west edge of Hardin County. The enterprise was not a financial success, although that region later was to mine approximately eighty-five per cent of the fluor spar mined in the entire world.

In these years from 1868 to 1875, Raum's political colleagues yet were definitely in the state and national picture. Logan had been elected to the Senate in 1867 although he was defeated in 1873 when he sought to succeed himself. General Grant was President. Colonel Robert G. Ingersoll was now a national figure. He had been appointed attorney general of Illinois in 1867, but was defeated in a bid for the governorship in 1872. John

A. Logan again was to be elected to the Senate in 1879, and again in 1885.

General Raum was a delegate to the Republican National Convention in 1876, and remained with Colonel Ingersoll when that peerless orator nominated James G. Blaine for the Presidency with his famous "plumed knight" speech, although Ingersoll, Raum, and the other Illinois Republicans really would have preferred Senator Morton of Indiana. Raum had been temporary chairman of the Illinois State Convention and had much to do with the selection of the delegates to the National Convention, but there was not the enthusiasm of former years. General Grant was not a candidate, perhaps because Congress had memorialized against a third term. Ingersoll, Raum, and the other men from Egypt were old Grant men. They had yet to form new political loyalties with the fervor of the old.

The deep loyalty of Raum to General Grant now was responsible for taking Raum out of his financial embarrassment. In the last year of Grant's presidential term, the President appointed him commissioner of internal revenue, and Raum held the office for seven years, until the first Cleveland administration. During his tenure, he collected some \$850,000,000, and disbursed over \$30,000,000. At the end of his service as commissioner of internal revenue, General Raum remained in Washington to practice law.

Raum was not to lose contact with Illinois Republicanism during his official life at Washington, and, in 1880, took a leading part in the political belligerence between the feuding Roscoe Conklin of New York and James G. Blaine. General Grant had returned from his travels, and Roscoe Conkling, Cameron of Pennsylvania, and Senator Logan, the "Triumvirate," as they came to be called, formed the board of strategy to nominate Grant for the Presidency again, and humiliate Blaine. Gen-

eral Raum led the fight in Illinois for General Grant.

The Blaine forces in Illinois were led by Charles B. Farwell, a member of the General Assembly from Chicago, aided by General Hurlburt. General Raum presided at the State Convention which was to select the delegates to the National Convention. Raum attended the State Convention by virtue of a proxy from Captain J. W. King.

The Convention met in a bitter atmosphere of disputed delegations and at first was unable to organize. Because of the turmoil in organizing, General Hurlburt approached Raum before the Convention was called to order on the second day, and indicated that he meant to ask for the floor immediately after opening and move that the Convention proceed to its business while yet operating under its temporary organization. Hurlburt did ask for recognition and Raum refused to recognize him. Hurlburt said in a most sarcastic manner, "Will the Commissioner of Internal Revenue recognize the gentleman from Boone," but despite the levity thus caused, Raum writes in later years that he never did recognize Hurlburt and had never meant to do so. The Convention voted to commend Raum for his fairness in presiding but this did not in the least diminish the discord.

Eventually the Grant forces, with the assistance of General Raum as presiding officer, prevailed; the Convention instructed its delegates to vote as a unit, and with Grant men in the majority, this meant for General Grant. Conkling, Cameron, and Logan calculated that if they could force Illinois and a couple of more states instructed to vote as a unit, Grant could be nominated. This issue was carried to the floor of the National Convention where Raum was a delegate and a member of the Committee on Credentials. General Raum made a great speech in the Convention defending the right of

the states to instruct their delegates, but the Grant forces lost the vote on the issue, and Grant never received more than 308 votes because of the loss of votes in Illinois, and the states relieved of the unit vote instruction. Garfield received the nomination.

This Convention marked the last time when the remnants of the group from Egypt were to battle together—Logan, Colonel Ingersoll, and Raum. Ingersoll reached such enthusiasm for Grant in the Convention that he marched down an aisle waving a red cloth. It was the last stand of these valiant political warriors before the advance of a new generation in Illinois Republicanism. The fight was to affect seriously Raum's political fortunes in 1883, and again in 1887.

In 1883, the term of United States Senator David Davis expired, and it was the duty of the General Assembly to elect a successor. In the Republican caucus to nominate, General Raum became a candidate. Former Governor Oglesby was a candidate, as was Governor Cullom. A great hue and cry went up over the State about the eligibility of Governor Cullom, under the State Constitution, to take office as senator during the term of governor to which he was elected.

In retrospect, it seems that only the knowledge of former power and political glory could have caused Raum to believe that he could be nominated against Cullom when the Governor had all the patronage of the State organization with which to control the Legislature.

The caucus met on January 17, 1883, and Governor Cullom led on each of the five ballots taken. The first ballot gave Cullom 44, Oglesby 29, Raum 22, and the remainder of the 107 possible votes were scattered. The fifth ballot resulted in Cullom receiving 63, enough for nomination, Oglesby 23, and Raum 13.

The *Springfield Journal* said the next day: "General Raum, one of the chief opponents of Governor Cullom

before the Republican caucus, is credited with the following statement in regard to his competition: 'Governor Cullom is the most successful public man Illinois has ever produced. There must be virtue in such a man. He must be a real statesman.' "

There were rumors that Raum gave a little help to Cullom in preference to Oglesby when it became apparent that Raum could not win, but when queried about this by a *Chicago Tribune* reporter, Raum said: "I never felt better. I didn't receive a scratch and am happy as I can be. You tell them that Raum fought his own battle."

Senator Logan had a difficult fight in 1885, but was re-elected. However, on December 26, 1886, he died. It then was necessary for the Legislature in 1887 to elect his successor. Again Raum became a candidate before the Republican caucus for the nomination.

Oglesby had been elected governor again and was serving at that time. Memories of the Grant-Blaine fight yet were fresh. Oglesby had no love for General Raum. Charles B. Farwell, Blaine's Illinois campaign manager in 1880, became a candidate for the nomination. Senator Cullom, then the senior senator, was not too friendly to Raum. Raum never had a "ghost of a chance" to receive the nomination. Farwell was nominated and elected. The long period of reconstruction was over. The new forces following the Grant Republicans had assumed command.

Following the election of Benjamin Harrison to the Presidency, he appointed General Raum commissioner of pensions in 1889, and Raum served until 1893 during the Harrison administration. After the end of this service, the General practiced law in Washington for a time, and then moved to Chicago and there began practicing law.

Raum was the author of several books dealing with his experiences and knowledge gained in the war and

in politics. In 1884, he wrote: *The Existing Conflict between The Republican Government and Southern Oligarchy*; in 1900, *History of Illinois Republicanism*; in 1905, *History of the War for the Union*; and in 1906, *History of Illinois*. In addition, he also wrote various magazine articles on related subjects.

General Raum died at Chicago on December 18, 1909, and is buried in Arlington National Cemetery. He had survived Logan, the Ingersolls, and the others who, before 1860, had formed the little group of Douglas Democrats in Egypt, but who had carried the banner of the Union and the Republican Party for more than thirty years of post-war political history.

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